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THE CLUB WOMAN

The Official Organ of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

VOL. VII.

JANUARY, 1901.

No. 4

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Something New for Girls and Boys

THE GREAT EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF TWO NEW DEPARTMENTS IN "ST. NICHOLAS."



"BECAUSE WE WANT TO KNOW."
Motto of "Nature and Science" in "St. Nicholas" Magazine.

During the past year "St. Nicholas" Magazine, which has been for nearly thirty years the leading children's monthly magazine of the world (and is now the only one of its class), has introduced several new departments which have been extremely attractive and have greatly increased the circulation. One of these is

"NATURE AND SCIENCE"

For many years the editor of this new department has been accompanied by young folks in parties of from a few to two hundred and fifty on natural history excursions along the roadsides, across the fields, through the forests, and in the meadows and swamps. This past year alone he has taken about 4500 girls and boys on tramps aggregating over 175 miles; and now in "St. Nicholas," he is reaching scores of thousands of children.

Prominent students are contributors to the department, which contains interesting short articles, beautifully illustrated, telling of four-footed animals, birds, insects, water animals, plants, and whatever pertains to Nature.

"Don't bother me—I'm too busy," is too often the remark from a grown-up person to a child who really wants to know. The editor of "Nature and Science" gives careful attention to every question asked by his young readers, and "We will write to 'St. Nicholas' about it!" has become the motto of the department.

"THE ST. NICHOLAS LEAGUE"

is another new department of "St. Nicholas" about which the boy and girl readers are growing very enthusiastic. It is an organization of those who read the magazine (whether subscribers or not), without dues, and it offers prizes each month for the best drawings, photographs, poems, stories, puzzles and puzzle answers, also special prizes from time to time; and all contributions are impartially judged, with due allowance for the age of the contributor. Some of the work sent in by young folks shows surprising talent.

FROM MRS. MONTGOMERY.

"I shall be very glad if in any way a word of mine can be of service in commending the St. Nicholas to club women. It seems to me the most charming of children's magazines—its cultural value in fostering a love of good pictures and good literature is large."

HELEN BARRETT MONTGOMERY,
Ex-Pres. N. Y. State Federation Women's Clubs; Member Board of Education, Rochester, N. Y.

FROM MRS. SCOTT.

"Happy is the child who, with the delightful sense of ownership, cuts the leaves of St. Nicholas every month, especially since it has added to its already bright, entertaining and instructive pages this valuable contribution—the department of Nature and Science."

"No greater stimulus could be found for teaching the young to see and understand the beauties of nature. Only an artist can realize how much thought and research this gifted band of illustrators have put into the varied work which so delights the young readers of St. Nicholas."

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Vice-Pres. Water Color Club (N. Y. City); Former Member Art Committee, General Federation Women's Clubs.

WHAT THE CHILDREN THINK OF IT.

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From Mary F. Watkins, New York City:

"I think the League is perfectly splendid, and I hope it will keep on forever."

From Margaret Doane Gardner, Bishop's House, Albany, New York:

"If ever my literary work should come to anything, I shall always feel that St. Nicholas, with its League, has been and is a great help."

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Another department, "Books and Reading," helps to turn the minds of the young "St. Nicholas" readers toward the right sort of literature.

No one who does not see "St. Nicholas" can realize what an interesting magazine it is, and how exquisitely it is illustrated; it is a surprise to young and old. Of literature it contains the choicest, and in art it has never been surpassed by any grown folks' periodical. The new volume begins with November, 1900, and the subscription price is \$3.00 a year. If there are children in your home, you can hardly afford to be without it.

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A PRIZE DRAWING BY A SIXTEEN YEAR OLD BOY.
From "The St. Nicholas League."

THE CLUB WOMAN

The Official Organ of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs and of the United States Daughters of 1812.

VOLUME VII.

BOSTON, JANUARY, 1901.

NUMBER 4

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NOTES.

Happy New Year.

The twentieth century has got here at last.

What will the club movement do with the twentieth century? What will the twentieth century do with the club?

Will state editors please remember us now that convention days are over? Send on your news just the same.

If The Club Woman is two or three days late this month, lay it up against a case of genuine old-fashioned rheumatism with inflammatory trimmings.

When The Club Woman is sent to persons not already on our subscription list, especially if a pink slip is enclosed, it means just this—Don't you wish to subscribe?

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Western Club Woman, formerly published in Denver, Col., has been bought and merged into The Club Woman, which is the official organ of General Federation of Woman's Clubs. Hereafter the two will be published as one periodical under the title of the last-named. All subscribers to the Western Club Woman will receive The Club Woman during the remainder of their unexpired term, and we trust they will like the combination so well that they will all renew at the expiration of their year. Subscribers to the Western Club Woman, whose year expired with November or December, will soon receive bills for the coming year. We trust that all will renew with us and that we shall be able to give them a club journal which will satisfy their desires. The Western Club Woman, as edited by Mrs. Stansbury, was a bright, progressive and handsome publication. We shall try our best to live up to its reputation.

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"THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

THE discussion of the place of modern woman at the Wisconsin Federation last November lingers in my mind as one of the most significant signs of the club movement. That the average woman herself is seeking to clarify the situation with common-sense is an encouraging fact, and as I said last month, the sanity of the average woman is what is going to save us. Miss Stearns,—everybody knows Miss L. A. Stearns, State Librarian of Wisconsin,—gave a most sensible talk on the subject, and said:

"The four reviews to which we have listened this afternoon have not been criticisms of a few isolated books dealing with the modern woman. Far from it. There has recently sprung up a great mass of book and periodical literature pertaining, as an earlier title had it, to Woman's Worth and Worthlessness. A few of the books' articles which have come to our attention the past few months have for their titles *The Unquiet Sex*; *The Domestic Blunders of Woman*, by a Mere Man; *The Teacup Club* (a satire, of course); *Domestic Duels*; *The Gentle Art of Cooking Husbands*, and its companion volume, *The Gentle Art of Cooking Wives*; *The Unmarried Woman*; *The Emancipation of Woman*; *Girls and Women*; *Abnormal Woman*; *The Female Offender*; *Woman, the Predominant Partner*; *Talks with Barbara*; *Only a Flock of Women*; *The New Womanhood*; *The Evolution of Woman*; *The Old Adam and the New Eve*; *Maids, Wives and Bachelors*; *The Presumption of Sex*; *Ideals of Womanliness*; *The Ascent of Woman*; *Woman, the Mystery*; *Woman, Can She Reason?* (a compilation of a wordy discussion in a New York paper); *Woman, the Weaker Vessel*; *Woman, as Seen Thro' a Man's Eye-Glass*; *The Headswoman*—in which the modern idea that some women have that they can do a man's work is ridiculed.

"Such fun as the latter affords is offset entirely by the bitter, pitiless irony of Robert Grant's *Unleavened Bread*—a delineation that is considered by one critic as a great American novel for which our country has long waited; while an English review deems it a work of art so symmetrical and sincere that it deserves also to be called a work of science. Now if science is revealed truth, if *Selma* is a true picture of a modern club woman, then, with due apologies to Mrs. Sewall, 'Where are we at?'"

"*Selma* is a type of woman even more extinct than the dodo, for *Selma* never was and never can be; for any one, who has tried either plan, knows that it is difficult to be entirely bad as it is to be entirely good. No matter how depraved a woman is, there is still remaining some human instincts; and Judge Grant fails, when he deprives his misguided creature of every human virtue. And yet this book, which is false and untrue to life, dealing with an exaggerated type, has been among the five best selling books since its publication; but we wish to venture the prediction that within a sixth month, *Unleavened Bread* will be found as flat, stale and unprofitable as its really prophetic title doth indicate. From various and sundry letters that we have received, we fear the average club woman is taking this travesty all too seriously; but we would remind such that Robert Grant, the author of such a book of verse as *The Little Tin God on Wheels* and such society novels as *The Confessions of a Frivolous Girl*, *Mrs. Harold Stagg*, *The Knave of Hearts*, *A Romantic Young Lady*, scarcely wishes, we judge, to be taken seriously. The author probably is as much astonished over

the furore that the book has caused as Edward Bellamy was when, upon the completion of a very imaginative work of fiction, dealing with future conditions, awoke to find that he was being taken seriously and had unwittingly established a new order of things in sociology. 'Tis true there is occasionally a *Selma* on an abridged plan, whose husband laments as his childless wife stalks off with the only night key, that the only face he sees around home now-a-days is the face of the clock.

"But we are reminded in this particular case of George Eliot's contention that it is no wonder women are foolish—they were made so to match the men. It may be true, as Dorothy Dix has said, that when a woman joins a club she buckles on her armor, like the knight errant of old, and goes out to hunt for trouble. All over this country," this recent writer continues, "we have the amusing spectacle of middle-aged women banded together for the purpose of trying to find out what Browning thought he thought, when they don't know the names of the bones in their own bodies; of women who are developing their time to studying the ancient Bysantine Empire when all the great problems of the living present are knocking at their doors to be solved; of women who lie awake nights worrying over the Indians; of women who organize themselves into political clubs for the parties who won't permit them to vote.

"But Dorothy Dix is not alone in her judgments. From a summary of many thoughts in the array of books previously mentioned, we learn that woman is the weaker vessel; that the sexes are not equal, that marriage is ceasing to become the common lot, and unhappy marriages are common; that not one woman in 5,000 is fit to be a mother; that women are deficient in justice, and that it was a mistake to make that admirable virtue a female; that when some women get to heaven the first thing they will ask will be how the rest of the angels have agreed to treat Mary Magdalen; that stinginess is much more characteristic of women than of men; that the husband who has to listen every evening to a long tale of domestic woe belongs to a numerous species and deserves much pity.

"We believe Charles Reade in one of his novels says of a certain woman, 'In thirty years she never once mentioned the servants to her husband,' and he continues, 'Oh, let eternal honor crown her name!' We learn, too, that among the distinguishing faults of women are frivolity, irrationality and incapacity to seize on more than one idea at a time; that of all virtues in woman serenity is most unusual; that woman despises the serpent through professional jealousy; that most women are prone to gossip; that if the average woman hasn't anything else to talk about she talks about all the time.

"Indeed, according to our modern cynic, women must ever have been debarred from Heaven itself, upon the ground that St. John in Revelations says: 'There was silence in heaven for the space of half an hour.' But even though a hereafter may be denied us, women have yet the consolation of dear old Bovee, who said that 'next to God himself we are indebted to women, first for life itself and then for making it worth the having.'

"But the gem of the entire collection of current literature pertaining to Woman is found in a paper-covered volume of 265 pages, entitled '*Angel or Devil*,' wherein is compiled from hundreds of sources—American, Russian, Sanskrit, Turkish, Grecian, Persian and Chinese—the thousand and one things

that have been said about woman. That there may be no doubt about the compliments paid her all such are placed on the right hand side of each leaf, while the truly doubtful sort are found on the reverse side. It is to be deeply regretted that the compiler" (why not reviler?) "who luckily remains anonymous, and who certainly must have been a man, found more of disparagements in his researches than of praise; but the whole work is worth careful perusal.

"In conclusion," quoted Miss Stearns:

"Woman may err, woman may give her mind
To evil thoughts and lose her pure estate,
But for one woman who affronts her kind
By wicked passions and remorseless hate,
A thousand make amends in age and youth
By heavenly pity, by sweet sympathy,
By patient kindness, by enduring truth,
By love, supremest in adversity."

All of which is true: for every bad woman, every erratic woman, every cold and selfish woman in the world, there are a thousand good and true and faithful unto death. Only the cynic and the critic do not consider the latter worth talking about. They only emphasize the abnormal woman, thinking all the time they are holding the mirror up to nature and proving something: which they are not.

CLUB EDUCATION.

Clara S. Carter, Woburn, Mass.

WORCESTER defines a club as a company or an association, to which every one contributes his share. In thinking of woman's club life and of its many-sided character the writer wondered whether the word club had acquired a new meaning at our hands, or whether it held in itself the complexity of ideas that the work of women's clubs represent. A man's club is chiefly a social institution, simple and easy to comprehend; but a woman's club, while taking sociability for a basis to build upon, invariably branches out in the direction of mental improvement in one or more ways. The term club must imply that the idea of a club is many wills moving in one will for common objects. "Unity in diversity," our motto, unity of aim, unity of desire. There is a wondrous power in these club circles which extends far beyond the members themselves; therefore only the best and the truest should be brought to bear upon the members and each one should feel a responsibility resting upon herself; all must bring into the storehouse and not be satisfied with taking out alone. Women are learning to use their tongues as well as to hold them; and in the light of this training can there be a question as to the benefit of woman's clubs to women? The results upon individual members during these years of club life have been most noticeable. Many who were afraid of their own voices grew to express themselves with clearness and confidence, and the minds of all have been aroused to intelligent interest upon a variety of subjects quite foreign to their earlier thoughts. Club intercourse, with the interchange of thought, has been so much to the writer that enough cannot be said in its favor, and when we see how it has done for others we are reminded of the marvelous pictures setting forth the virtues of sundry patent medicines—"before using and after using; behold the difference!" In our early school days it was often told us, as an inducement for correct

recitations, that we had no ideas unless we could express them. Every woman has some thoughts valuable in themselves, which are worthy of expression and will be helpful to others; and can there be a more fitting place to express them than among those who, like herself, have caught the spirit of progress, and where the interests of one are the interests of all? In club culture, how zealously we should guard our clubs, allowing no sinister motive to creep in, no petty jealousies or party strifes to take root, but keep it a place where heart answereth to heart in harmony and love. Different women join from different motives, but the underlying principle of honesty and truth should have such a firm foothold that it will be the only power. We will remember the wave of astonishment that was afloat when it was heralded that a body of women had formed themselves into a club. The very name was suggestive of the men, would women congregate to chat and read papers and eat and drink? Some were even fearful that other accessories of men's clubs would follow. Oh, it was the entering wedge for the despoiling of the home-life, and all true women must stand firm against such an enemy. But prophecy failed and no direful results followed. Never could anything taken such deep root had it not been a positive necessity. Something that has filled the cravings of many a hungry heart, and now women can grow, there is no more thought of stagnation. Is not, then, home life richer for this intercourse with other thoughtful minds? As the opportunity has come, so has the responsibility. As women stay at home more than men do their manners, habits, beliefs, prejudices and tone of thought become more localized, and they become the conservers of provincialism in all its forms. Every community has its own conventionalities, its own traditions of propriety, its prevailing tone.

The woman's club of every such a community is influenced by these. One of the best services that women's clubs have rendered their members is in giving them new subjects of conversation. Husbands, brothers, neighbors and servants should unite in raising a monument to the woman who invented clubs, for under the protection afforded by this invention the narrowness and peevishness of their club friends is subdued. Their appreciation of their own will be more just when they have some standard of comparison, as all classes of women are helped by a standard. There is a woman of restless, dissatisfied nature, who always imagines that everything not hers, whether it be a bonnet, a horse or a club, is better than her own until a broadening school her fancy; and there is the complacent woman, who imagines her own possessions necessarily better become her than the corresponding possessions of other people until acquaintance corrects her conceit. Appreciation, sympathy, open-mindedness grow by contact with the new and unaccustomed. When women have worked in one club long enough to know one another's resources and the end of one another's resources as well, nothing can be more helpful than to visit another club, or, better still, for representatives of a number of clubs to meet for a visit about club matters, and this is what a State Federation is on a larger scale. Continued association with the same women reveals, as we have said, their limitations, and the club woman may come to demand too much of her associates. This tendency will be checked by becoming acquainted with other clubs. Every woman knows that the best part of a visit is getting home again. She will go home, to be sure, determined to effect some trifling changes, suggested to her mind by her hostess' management, but not the less will a short absence from it make her own home seem of increased value. Such should be the effect of our club life.

WAIT.

Lydia Avery Coonley Ward.

ALL Nature waits th' appointed hour,
The seed to start, the bud to flower;
But man, impatient, hurries on,
To lose the cause that might be won.

Calm wisdom ever counsels: Wait!
Time solves the problems of the State;
When seed of righteous cause is sown,
Trust time to show its flower full-blown.

EFFECT OF THE CLUB ON THE HOME,

Miriam Fort Gill, Paris, Texas.

IN this busy world we are creatures of two influences, and only two—hereditary and environment. We are fond of saying that the mind of the child is a pure white page, on which the mother may write at will fair characters only; its soul, as a piece of wax which her inspired fingers may mold into purity and beauty. What a beautiful illusion—an illusion, nevertheless. The most potent influence in the world is heredity. The Bible teaches it with fearful warning: "Visiting the iniquities of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generations." Our experience has brought us face to face with it, in our own children, in many unexpected ways.

Here is where our responsibility begins: We, as mothers, must courageously face the fact that our lives are not lived to ourselves alone, even in matters of seemingly small moment; but that we are unconsciously shaping the character of unborn generations. Fearful responsibilities to guard against moral and physical infirmity, the frail generations yet to come. Let us bravely meet it.

Someone once asked Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes when he would begin to train a child. "I would begin with its great-grandmother," he quickly replied. These inherited traits and dispositions are dependent wholly upon environment for their development or suppression. A child must be closely watched, its traits of character earnestly studied, and the watchful mother must, by surrounding influences, develop and perfect this character, directing where it is strong, building up where it is weak. This influence during the formative years is in the home; there the child must find the environment which develops or overcomes the inherited traits. Education creates no potentialities of the mind, but it cultivates and augments those which are given by inheritance.

The most enduring element of our national strength lies in the fact that our American life centres around the home fireside. We are proud to boast of the goodness and bravery of our men, the beauty and purity of our women, and they have these qualities because the home is their school and the mother their teacher.

The wise Creator, when he made woman, gave her the two highest offices in His gift—those of wife and mother. Kings boast of reigning by right divine, and inscribe "Rex Dei Gratia" upon the laws of their land, but woman is the only creature who may truthfully use those words, and she may say, "I am a woman by the grace of God, and rule in a kingdom of kingdoms." She makes no laws, leads no armies, governs no enterprises, but she forms those by whom laws are made, armies

led and enterprises governed. Lamartine has said: "There is a woman at the beginning of all great things," and Ruskin that "no man has lived a right life who has not been chastened by a woman's love, strengthened by her courage, and guided by her counsel."

We club women must realize our responsibilities as the makers of the home. Whatever affects us in any degree finds its strongest reflection in our homes and influences for good or ill, our children and our children's children. The club is a new experiment and must be thoughtfully considered. The club woman is a new factor in social economy.

What influence, then, does the club, through the woman, exert on the home? If for evil, let us find wherein the evil lies and check it before it goes any farther. If for good, think for an instant what a tremendous moral force in the hands of these hundreds, nay, thousands, of club women.

As far as I have been able to discern only good has so far come to the home from the establishment of woman's clubs. I have studied them carefully in this State and my observation shows no evil results. I think the opinion of men a very good criterion in these cases; they are quick to see when a woman's movement is good or not; and the men generally approve of women's clubs. The husbands of the Lotus ladies do, I know, for they invariably protest against their wives resigning. Men like their wives to be women of culture. They want something more than a good housekeeper. They want a companion in every sense of that good old-fashioned word, and a wife can make no sadder mistake than to allow her husband to outgrow her intellectually; he should never be ashamed of her, but always proud of her.

I did hear of one man who once said that he thought if a wife joined a club it should be sufficient cause for a divorce; but that man's wife said she had only ten cents pocket money in six months, five cents of which she made by selling milk, and the other five cents she stole from his pocket. The next Sunday at church, as the contribution box approached, he whispered, "You can put in that nickety you stole out of my pocket." So I hardly think we need count that man, but if the opponents of women's clubs want him as a witness they may have him.

Sometimes we hear a critic say that women who belong to clubs had better look more to the affairs of their homes and less to literature or any kind of club work. My experience is that no woman takes more pride in or more watchful care of her home than the club woman. Her love of the beautiful is cultivated by a study of the arts, and her home with its tasteful furnishings, its music, pictures and books reflects her refined tastes. Her children are early taught to seek the beautiful and pure, and to love only things which are elevating.

She studies household economics, and is able to furnish a more wholesome and appetizing menu from the same ordinary materials. She learns that the German saying: "The wife can throw out with a spoon faster than the husband can throw in with a shovel," is strictly true, and by her club-learned wisdom she is able to guide the careless servant and lessen her household expenditures. Of course experience would have taught her much of this, but experience is a dear teacher. Her studies of the new discoveries in science teach her the deadly power of germs in hidden places; she becomes a vigilant sanitarian and wages unceasing warfare on dirt and disease. She often wishes some of her neighbors would take a club course in hygiene and learn to see with her knowing eye.

The club woman learns also to be liberal minded and tolerant. Women have always been called narrow and prejudiced,

but a narrow-minded, prejudiced woman either broadens out in a club or else resigns. There is no room for such a character in a progressive club. This same generous spirit she brings into her home life, and also sends forth from it broad-gauged, liberal-hearted men and women to uplift the world. A grand step forward, for prejudice and intolerance are the deadliest enemies of progress.

To my mind the greatest blessing the club brings to the home is in the way of education. It is one of the defects of our system of feminine education that our girls leave school before the mind is fully matured; it is in fact just entering the state of comprehensiveness that insures lasting benefit from systematic study. A small minority continue their studies in a regular college, but the great majority, after a season of society, marry and make homes of their own. By and by the bright boys and girls in that home begin to ask mother some most perplexing questions, and demand assistance that mother finds herself unable to give; she suddenly realizes that it is imperative that she keep in touch with these young minds, and she eagerly turns to the post-graduate course for mothers—a woman's club.

This I am sure has been the experience of many mothers here today. She finds that the present school methods leave much of the teaching to be done by mothers, and she really needs the intellectual stimulus of a good club to enable her to do her duty by her children.

I had this brought home to me very forcibly not long ago; a young girl came to me in distress; she had been given for a subject for a school essay, "The Anglo-Saxon, His Beginning, His Progress, His Influence in History, His Power, His Future." The child had never studied either English or general history; her mother confessed her inability to help her and sent her to me. But for a club I would probably have been as helpless, but several years before I had a course in a club on the Anglo-Saxon, and I was able to assist the child to fully grasp her subject. She asked me wonderingly if I remembered all that from my school days? I answered her I did not, it was what a club had taught me. "Then I intend to join a club when I am a woman," she declared. Do you not think that little helpful deed fully paid for my course of study?

The competition of business, its rushing methods and strict demands completely absorb our men so that many duties fall upon the modern woman, that our mothers and grandmothers in their leisurely days were spared. Nowadays almost the entire supervision of the children's education falls on the mother, and she must inspect school methods and results. She must also be the guardian of her children's health. The club has helped to recognize the dangers and approve the good. She sometimes finds it necessary to inaugurate a crusade in her town for the reform of abuses in these affairs. She very effectually brings these changes about without the necessity of a vote, for she does not want to vote; she has a wholesome and proper horror of the political franchise, realizing that she possesses in her very womanly influence a more powerful factor than one poor vote, for she can vote every man in her family and many that are without because she is a womanly woman.

Finally, I want to impress upon you the thought that the higher education and general uplifting of woman means not only the education of the home, but of the nation. Whatever may be the laws and customs of a country, women make its morals, for women are the ordained moral teachers of the world. Wherever women are wise and pure the nation reflects their wisdom and purity; wherever degraded and ignor-

ant, the nation is as dark as ignorance and vice. The day has passed when Martin Luther can say: "No gown or garment worse becomes a woman than when she would be wise." "Women must educate themselves, not merely for their own sakes, but for the sake of others, for whether they will or not they must educate others.

Let them keep high ideals and live up to them, for as wife and mother, sister, an influence indirect and perhaps unconscious is shaping some character and building for the weal or woe of our country.

Benjamin Rush has said: "A philosopher once said, 'Let me make the ballads of a country and I care not who makes its laws.'" He might with more propriety have said: "Let the ladies of a country be educated properly and they will not only make and administer its laws, but form its manners and character."

Let women never forget that to them is given the divine privilege to teach man; and while we teach him to maintain his rights, teach him also the solemn obligation of duty, and while cultivating his intellect teach him that there is something greater than intellect, and that is purity and truth.

"There were twenty-eight at the club that night," writes someone to The Club Worker; "twelve old members, who were the club; three faint-hearted ones, who come occasionally, and thirteen visitors, who we hoped would join us. All the arrangements had been carefully made, but there was some unaccountable delay. The smell of coffee betokened supper later, the green-decked stage suggested tableaux, possibly a play, but until the curtain rolled up there was nothing to do but try to make our guests feel at home. Tonight that was a difficult task, for everyone seemed uncomfortable and ill at ease. No wonder, then, that a stage whisper through the curtain, 'Molly has only just come and putting on her wrinkles will take fifteen minutes,' cast an added gloom.

"Then it was that our Bright Member, absent a moment from the room, came back with pencils and slips of paper, and the direction to 'stop talking' (quite unnecessary under the circumstances). Each one had to pin a numbered slip of paper on her dress in plain sight. And lastly we were instructed to write down on our slips of paper opposite the numbers chosen the corresponding names of all present. As many had only met that night and as no one had expected to be thus examined it was quite a difficult task before us. But it proved most successful, for we had forgotten all our diffidence before the play began, and at the next meeting twelve new members were enrolled. Thus our Bright Member saved the club."

OVER ALL.

Helen M. Winslow.

I said—
If I could see a light ahead—
Could know the ships I sent to sea
Were blown by Fortune's gale toward me
I could believe in matters great or small
God watcheth over all.

O selfish heart!
Canst thou not see the nobler part?
To bear with patience sure defeat,
To upward climb with stubborn feet,
In spite of disappointment's iron thrall
For God is over all!

THE UNSOLVED PROBLEM.

Of all the unsolved problems that have agitated the human mind from time immemorial, one has been to make provision for the poor. Intellectual and philanthropic giants have grappled with this economic problem, but you all know the quotation about "Fools rushing in where angels fear to tread."

"The poor," says Jesus, "ye have always with you," leaving to us the inference that whenever we will we can do them good. To do good is to advance man's best interests, elevate his character and promote his happiness—rarely does an eleemosynary institution accomplish these things, because often through it the true dignity of manhood is lost. It is the duty of every one to ameliorate the condition of the poor without impairing their self-respect. This dignity of character can only be acquired and maintained by honest labor, not by subsisting on the earnings or the generosity of the benevolent. The claim that "all have a right to exist" is true, but this condition is balanced by "every right involving a corresponding duty." Money may be a good servant, but a bad master—the only thing is that it should be used to the best advantage; for capital can be rendered a dynamic power for good or evil. The batteries of legislation should be turned against monopolies, syndicates and the crystallization, but not against the accumulation of wealth. If the centralization of wealth be not restricted, individuals, syndicates and corporations rioting in wealth, become intoxicated with its perfume and demand the centralization of power. Greece, famous for its art, literature and commerce, was conquered by Rome, through the weakness which luxury engenders—having limited numbers of fabulously wealthy people and the masses extremely poor. Extremes are unhealthy. Three thousand years before Rome commenced to stretch herself, Egypt was great, but with all her wealth, religion, learning, art and civilization, fell before the power of Rome. Little attention was paid to the poor—in fact they were all on the plane of semi-slaves, as the building of the great pyramids testifies.

There is no doubt that nothing can be done without labor, but it must not be forgotten that nothing can be done without capital. They are certainly dependent upon each other. Capital aids labor as surely as labor produces capital.

Capital is a factor of civilization and notwithstanding its march, which means inventions, machinery, etc., a comparatively small number grow richer and the army of the poor steadily increases, assuming colossal proportions. What to do with the unemployed naturally alarms the great thinkers of the day as they witness the increased frequency of anarchistic demonstrations.

Everything, like knowledge, can be used for good or evil—it is the way that things are applied. Gunpowder is a great invention and when used for blasting purposes is a benefit to mankind, but when employed to propel bullets brings destruction and death.

Metternich wisely and truly observes, "There are no more political questions, there are only social questions." We are standing on the brink of a volcano and no number of soup houses will repress the smoldering fires; it requires more direct, substantial aid. Some plan must be devised by the body politic to make man self-sustaining. Sporadic charity amounts to nothing. Every dollar given to an individual degrades that individual. Every dollar given to an association to provide work in any shape for the unemployed is the initiation of a commendable effort to elevate the poor. This is not iconoclastic—not tearing down without building up; it is simply

substituting the workshop for the soup-house. Make your people independent of charity, but dependent upon labor and there will rise up a nation, strong in principle and action—the essential elements of a free and powerful people.

Indiscriminate relief originated with the Autochthons and continued a long time before even a poor law was enacted. In the early ages the church took care of the poor, but not in the sympathetic and systematized way of today. It is now being gradually transferred as business of the municipality. Christianity gave alms as a religious duty, the Talmud as a right of religious and civil law. Many years ago, upon the introduction of relief for the poor, notwithstanding the various methods devised for their suppression, so many paupers sprung up that the police had to arrest them for vagrancy and they were compelled to resort to a law which coerced able-bodied men to work for what they received. Under Elizabeth, in 1572, a local poor rate was established so work could be obtained. No tragic scenes were enacted to procure work, but many were branded, according to the cruel punishment of the age, for refusing to work. In feudal times the lord of a town provided for his impoverished dependents; they gave him their services in return—which still left them with a spirit of independence. Pauperism will ever be on the increase if state appropriations and the charities of the rich are not made to flow in the right channel. "Eleemosynary relief," says Charlotte Bronte, "never yet tranquillized the working classes—it never made them grateful, it is not in human nature that it should."

In 1797, in Brandenburg, compulsory labor was imposed upon the people because it was the sure method of obtaining money both from private persons and from the government to furnish work for the unemployed. Preventive charity by endeavoring to provide work for the masses is the great thing to be accomplished. Neither trades unions, mechanical inventions, nor other great discoveries of hitherto unknown forces, nor eleemosynary institutions have decreased pauperism—on the contrary it is everywhere on the increase. Charity demoralizes, because it eliminates the stamina and self-respect—work elevates man.

Exceptions should be made in regard to the giving of alms and providing institutions. Indulgence is claimed for children, the infirm and the aged, and even the maintenance of the latter could be avoided and their independence secured, as in some parts of Europe there is a compulsory insurance for old age, which works with excellent results.

In the evolution of things, institutions as well as laws grow, and there is evolution in the mode of providing for the poor. In Sothern, I think it is a Canton in Switzerland, there is already a society started on the principle that "Labor is the best largesse." Several persons subscribe so much annually for the purchase of raw material, usually flax, hemp, thread, cotton, etc. This is given to be worked up for pay, and the stuff is either sold or distributed amongst the subscribers at a fair price.

I read recently that thirty-one persons died of actual starvation in London last year; not one applying to the parish authorities for relief. Had there been work they would have asked for it. So in many cases it is the undeserving who apply and receive, whereas the pride and sensitiveness of the deserving prevent them from requesting or accepting alms.

The only way to solve The Unsolved Problem is that workshops should be established and maintained just as charitable institutions, colleges, and universities are maintained—by taxation, appropriations from the state and endowments from the wealthy.

The public schools, maintained by taxation, demonstrate the feasibility of workshops, both private and national. Workshops and schools can be maintained at less expense than reformatories and penitentiaries, and thus it resolves itself into political economy.

Paul says, "He that will not work shall not eat," which holds good today. The struggle for existence goes on—bread tickets will not secure the desideratum. The Unsolved Problem daily asked is, "How to secure the necessities of life?" The innovation of workshops may be more startling than the promulgation of public schools, but the agitation in that direction is augmenting. The age is more charitable, but poverty increases; it is the incipient cause of nihilism, socialism, anarchism and all other isms. It is not the "Man with the Hoe" that cries to the world, but the man Without the Hoe, who wants work, and there is none. The Hoe does not make man the "Brother of the Ox," but the brother of the man who will rise with new conditions.

Organized associations where needy persons can apply and obtain work—not specialized—at minimum prices, not organized charities, are what are required. Then no excuse can be given and no apology will be accepted for any one who commits a crime—it will down Herr Most and crush out anarchism and socialism. Work alone is not demoralizing and develops "individual freedom"—the goal we should all seek.

Just now there is a wave which appears like advancement and which is beneficial to the poor, manifesting itself in "Boys'" and "Girls' Clubs," Settlement Work, etc., all effective work; but to give these people a glimpse of the sunshine and the beautiful is not all that should be done. First provide the work, let them know the dignity of it, the sweetness and blessings of it—then they will gradually make their way and like sunflowers always turn towards the sun.

And now comes Robert Buchanan and says we are drifting "towards absolute barbarism" and have left the higher spiritual ideas and lost the gospel of humanity expressed by Wordsworth, Hood and Shelly—that a new ethos is taking possession of the world at large and that physical force and commercial success are the ruling activities of the day. So, according to Buchanan, the solving of the problem of relieving distressed humanity is farther off than ever.

Thus while public schools and universities of all kinds and grade are flourishing and numerous buildings are being erected at an enormous cost, the country is turning out millions of men and women with scientific and literary attainments, with the Darwinian theory of the survival of the fittest—the re-incarnation of the old Spartan idea that the weak should be left to fate and the strong nourished and protected. Feed the mind by all means, but an impoverished body cannot furnish a good house for a highly intellectual mind. Though in favor of the schoolhouse and the school mistress wherever there are six pupils or less, yet the national workshops should also be maintained wherever their need is felt and the landscape should be dotted with them.

Tolstoi claims, and he should know, that "Some sociologists teach that the true solution of modern social inequalities is to wipe out the inequalities of the masses. This solution is, however, a phantasm. The cultured poor are far more helpless than the uncultured poor."

The self abnegation of men like Tolstoi has never accomplished any visible results, but imperceptibly "Yes"—like the dripping of water upon the rocks it is eventually felt.

Thought is immortal, and the thought of having national and private workshops for the unemployed will gather strength

as a ball rolling down hill increases in velocity, gaining force by its own momentum.

So let the approaching twentieth century with its rich heritage of discoveries, inventions, intellectual development, homogeneity and liberality of thought and altruistic humanity proceed to demonstrate that a well devised method of obtaining work for the unemployed is the only salvation of man and the only solution of the unsolved problem.

MRS. I. LOWENBERG.

Read before the organization of State Federation in Los Angeles, Wednesday, January 17th.

NOTES.

Have you attended to your renewals?

No club should make its individual work its chief aim, but hold it only as a stepping-stone to greater development.

Will the state secretaries kindly send us at once their latest year books?

State Federation presidents can be of great assistance to the Club Woman, by recommending it to all their clubs. This ought to be done, as no club, whether federated or not, should be without the official organ of the G. F. W. C.—and no individual club woman, either.

Subscribers not receiving The Club Woman regularly are requested to notify this office, and copies of missing numbers will be sent. In spite of our best efforts papers will get lost through the mail, but we are always glad to make good the loss if notified before our supply is exhausted.

We shall be glad to examine short stories pertaining to clubs and club life, with a view to publishing them in The Club Woman. A good club story is the rarest piece of literature in the literary market today. A short play, suitable for parlor or club presentation, that bears upon club life or the present and future status of woman, is even rarer. Will not some reader of The Club Woman send us one?

If you want a specially good program for club study on Russia send for the one prepared by Isabel Hapgood for the Chautauqua people. It was prepared in view of the great interest in this subject at the present time. This course has been prepared at considerable expense and Miss Hapgood has spared no pains to make it as thorough as possible. At the same time the work is not so formidable that it need frighten any club, however timid, since the plan is so arranged that at small expense a club may do most interesting work, while at the same time they can expand their work indefinitely as their opportunities permit.

The Nesika Club of Tacoma, Wash., has this little stanza on the fly-leaf of their year-book:

NESIKA.

A little rugged word thou art,
A humble waif of savagery;
Yet speaking deeply, to each heart,
Of love and faith and loyalty.
Not soft and musical;
Not sweet and rythmical;
Just odd and whimsical,
O name to us so dear.

May S. Guyles.

OPEN PARLIAMENT.

Mrs. Emma A. Fox.

(Questions for this department should be sent to 21 Bagley avenue, Detroit, Michigan.)

(a)

IS it in order to move to take a matter of business from the table immediately after a motion has been carried to table it, no other business having intervened?

(b) When an amendment is laid on the table does it always carry with it the original motion?

(a) A motion to take from the table is not in order immediately after an affirmative vote on the motion to lay on the table.

It is not, however, "a matter of business" that is laid on the table, but a motion or resolution.

(b) Yes, with one exception. A motion to amend the minutes may be laid on the table without taking with it the motion that the minutes be approved.

In a society meeting a few days ago, a motion was made and after some discussion was laid on the table. Then, all the members began to discuss the original motion. Would you recommend telling the members that they were out of order?

It is the duty of the presiding officer to prevent such a disorderly proceeding, and if the presiding officer failed to do so, it is the privilege of any member to raise a point of order. A member who should attempt to tell the members something would be out of order, as all remarks should be addressed to the chair. Furthermore, unless one has been previously appointed as critic or instructor, his advice is seldom well received.

When a motion to commit is under consideration, may the motion which it is proposed to refer to a committee be debated, or must debate be restricted to the desirability of commitment?

Discussion on the main motion is in order only to the extent that it may be affected by reference to a committee.

Is it not the duty of the presiding officer to state every motion that is properly moved and seconded?

It is his duty to do so, providing, of course, the motion is in order at that time.

When the ballots were counted for the election of president at our annual meeting, two of them were written in pencil and were so dim that the tellers could not decide which of two names was intended, as both began with the same letter. They put them with the blank ballots and did not count them at all. Had the tellers the right to do this? It might sometimes make a difference in the election, for on this particular occasion there was only a majority of four votes.

The tellers should have reported the blank ballots as illegal votes, and the ballots they could not read, as doubtful votes, reporting the number. It was the prerogative of the assembly, not of the tellers, to decide what action should be taken. The assembly might appoint another teller who could decipher the writing with certainty, or it might decide to throw out the ballots. In any case, the tellers are relieved of responsibility.

Is it ever permissible to instruct the secretary to cast the ballot of the society?

Certainly not, if the rules require that election be by ballot. The motion is frequently made where only one nominee has been mentioned for an office, but if the legality of such an election were ever called in question, the person thus declared elected could probably not retain the office. It is sometimes said that by a unanimous vote an assembly may violate all parliamentary rules, but a motion which is in violation of the constitution, by-laws or standing rules of a society is never in order, and should not be entertained.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

Suggestions for Studying Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

By Viola Price Franklin.

Bibliography. (One of a series of Studies.)

Memoir and Letters of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, by W. M. Rossetti; Victorian Poets (Rossetti), by E. C. Stedman; Ward's English Poets (Rossetti), by W. H. Pater; Recollections of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, by T. Hall Caine; Dante Gabriel Rossetti, A Record and Study, by Wm. Sharp; Dante Gabriel Rossetti, by Mary A. Robinson, Harper's Magazine, October, 1882; New Poetry of the Rossettis and Others, Atlantic Monthly Magazine, January, 1882; Memorials of Rossetti, Atlantic Monthly Magazine, 1883; The Painted Poetry of Watts and Rossetti, 19th Century, 1883; Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Poet and Painter, Round Table Series, 1886.

See articles in The Bookman, vol. 1, page 170; Poet-Lore, vol. 7, page 1; The Dial, vol. 20, page 164; The Critic, vol. 28, page 463; The Nation, vol. 36, page 67, also 36, page 408; The Literary World, vol. 14, page 56; The New England Magazine, vol. 44, page 505; Magazine of Art, vol. 12, page 21-138; North American, vol. 111, page 471.

The First Study.

A. His Life. B. His Work as a Painter.

(a) Study the significant events in his life: Ideal childhood. Favorable environment. Early love for the Italian. Classical education. Cultivates taste for painting. Fame as poet. The man himself: Appearance, personality, marriage. His wife the inspiration of his art. Bereavement. Home changed to Chatham Place. Fellow artists. Literary friends. Struggles with fatal disease. Death.

(b) Topics for Investigation: His relations to his friends: Artistic, John Ruskin, J. E. Millais, Wm. Morris. Literary, Hall Caine, Swinburne, Tennyson, Browning. His Student Life. What led to choice of profession. His habits of work: His domestic relations as a son, brother, and husband. His home life in Cheyne Walk. His religious views.

B. As a Painter. (a) Special studies of small figures. How he excelled as a colorist. Trace the rise of the pre-Raphaelite School: its cabal, its membership, Rossetti's connection with it. Compare Rossetti's painting with that of Millais and E. Burne Jones.

(b) Study special pictures. Make an artistic study of the pictures: The Blessed Damozel (see vol. 1, of life by Rossetti, chapters 10 and 11.) The Girlhood of Mary Virgin (vol. 1, chapter 13, page 142). Trace the characteristics of the pre-Raphaelite School (see vol. 1, page 135), such as Christian subject, mediæval life, moral and spiritual ideas versus sensual description, parts of picture painted from nature, elaboration of details, symbolical and spiritual meaning of details, love for

the primary hues in color, long lines, minuteness of folds in drapery.

(c) Make a detailed study of the portraits in the books sent, *Letters and Memoir*, by W. M. Rossetti. What was Rossetti's greatest original contribution to art? What are the characteristics of his ideal woman's face?

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION NOTES.

One of the best study programs that has come under our observation is the one on Russia followed by the Fortnightly Club of Lincoln, Nebraska. For two years they studied the history, literature and art of this great country. Such scholarly research and stimulating study is accounted for when it is known that among the members were two such capable instructors in the state university as Mrs. Taylor, so well known for her sociological investigations and interest in municipal problems, and Mrs. Hinmon, for her work in experimental psychology.

It is to be regretted that the University of Wisconsin has withdrawn its correspondence courses. Women's clubs should not let the feeling of reciprocity extend so far as to lead them always to expect something for nothing. A few dollars less expended on millinery or fur collarettes would easily provide for an inspiring course of instruction. Miss Louise Manning Hodgkins used to advise us Wellesley girls that since we did not have to wear kid gloves to the college; we ought to expend that amount in valuable books. Such celebrated lecturers as Dr. Ely, Dr. Reinsch, Dr. Turner and Dr. Giese of this university have not time to lecture for "reputation."

The same deplorable state of affairs existed at the University of Nebraska. Men of national reputation would be expected to give series of lectures involving great expenditure of time merely for a "thank'ee," yet the same clubs would think nothing of spending hundreds of dollars on a big banquet. What benefit is the club to women unless it uplifts intellect and spirit?

Why will women's clubs gladly pay a man thirty or forty dollars for a half-hour talk and offer petty excuses for paying a woman five or ten dollars for a lecture just as profound and inspiring?

As long as this state of affairs exists many editors will continue to twit women's clubs for giving so much attention to the physical instead of the intellectual.

Let us hear from club women on this subject. How may a higher plane be reached?

Dr. Moulton, the celebrated university extension lecturer, recently gave an address at vespers at the University of Chicago, on "The Religious Teachings of Shakespeare." It was considered one of surpassing power. The Wesleyan Guild of Madison, Wisconsin, is congratulating itself over its success in securing a lecture from this inspiring scholar. If the Woman's Club is wise it will avail itself of this opportunity to hear Dr. Moulton in his *Macbeth* or *Faust* the afternoon he is in Madison.

A worthy tribute to a noble woman was given when Mr. Elwell, the sculptor, and Mr. Sanborn, author, presented the bust of Louisa M. Alcott to the University of Kansas. When a generous woman contributes a hall of fame to an university is it poetic justice that no woman is found worthy of a place therein? Maria Mitchell and Julia Ward Howe are worthy of a place in our Westminster Abbey.

Dr. George Vincent of the University of Chicago, in a lecture before a woman's club there, urged the women not to forget their homes. He would be encouraged if some lady

would request him to read Miss Winslow's wise counsel in "Mellowing of Occasion" in December. Notwithstanding the pessimists, the average woman, like Octave Thanet's "Modern Man," will continue to work "at the old stand as wife and mother, yet with enlarged sense of outside responsibilities."

UNITED STATES DAUGHTERS OF 1812.



The annual meeting of the General Society United States Daughters 1812 will take place at Delmonico's, Fifth avenue and Forty-fourth street, New York City, on Tuesday, January 8th, 1901, the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans in 1815.

The Associate Council, which consists of all the officers of each organized State Society and the Executive Board of the General Society, will be in session from 10 a. m. till 12 o'clock noon, during which time the polls will be open for the election of a Curator General and a Historian General. There will be four candidates for these offices—Mrs. Robert G. Barry, President of Maryland; Mrs. John B. Richardson, President of Louisiana; Mrs. T. L. A. Grieve, President of Ohio, and Mrs. Alfred Russell, President of Michigan. The one of these receiving from the Associate Council the highest number of votes will be elected Curator General; the next higher, Historian General. Full business reports will be given at this council meeting from state presidents and executive officers.

From 12 noon till 1 p. m. an informal reception will be held by the board. At 1 o'clock luncheon will be served for those who wish it, preparations having been made for the same at the uniform price of one dollar each.

Exercises for the General Society will be held at 2 p. m. The minutes of the last general meeting and a condensed report of the Historian General of the entertainments and projects and historical work of the society will be given, and new business introduced. Entertaining exercises will follow, and a large gathering is expected from nearly every state in the country.

E. M. H. (Mrs. Gerry) Slade,
President-General.

"Old Ironsides" is to be rebuilt and refitted, at an expense of nearly \$400,000, by the Daughters of 1812 of Massachusetts. The historic old vessel is now lying at the Charlestown Navy Yard. The efforts—in which Congress will assist by an appropriation—to save the conquerer of the *Guerriere*, *Java*, *Levant*, and *Cyane* are coincidental with the publication, by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., of "The Constitution: The Central Figure of the Navy Under Sail," by Ira N. Hollis, sometime commander in the United States Navy and now professor of engineering in Harvard University. Mrs. Nelson V. Titus is to give us a special article for *The Club Woman* soon, describing the work of the Massachusetts women.

The editor of *The Club Woman* was extremely sorry to miss the opportunity given her to meet the United States Daughters at the annual meeting of the Empire State Society on December 19, but an engagement to lecture before one of the outlying clubs near Boston prevented her from accepting the cordial invitation sent by Mrs. Slade and Mrs. Greeley. To use an old-fashioned New England phrase she "got her come-uppance," for genuine old-fashioned rheumatism with inflammatory trimmings laid her low, and she remained that

day, as the old hymn hath it, "stretched on a bed of pain and languishing"—and went nowhere. But we shall give a good account of the dinner, just the same a little later.

The meeting was at Delmonico's, Fifth avenue and Forty-fourth street. The last "Honor Day" took the form of a reception and luncheon to Mrs. Jennie C. Croly, as guest of honor, on the occasion of her seventieth birthday, and was a most brilliant occasion. This year the guests of honor were chiefly selected from the Army and Navy service, and the affair was most enjoyable. Following its custom, the Empire State Society invited many club presidents and the members of their clubs, or other club women who might wish to share the delightful hours.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR NEW ENGLAND WOMEN

THE National Society of New England Women is one of the most influential and far-reaching of organizations. Its name resounds gladly throughout our entire Republic, and especially in the West, where the majority of the inhabitants boast New England ancestry.

The parent society is in New York city and numbers upwards of seven hundred members. The aim is to form a fraternity of women of New England ancestry, whatever their present location, and by this means to perpetuate the customs, hospitalities and legends of former years, and aid in advancing and promoting interests that concern them. The Department of Philanthropy added in '99, the "Coe Scholarship Fund" which is destined to help many girls of New England heritage to a college course.

The present president, Mrs. J. Woolsey Shepard, has at heart the formation of branch societies, and has already started several. If anyone desiring to form a branch will address Mrs. Shepard, 243 W. 99th St., New York City, she will be happy to forward Constitution and By-Laws, and whatever further advice is desired. Each branch adjusts its own plans of finance, etc. There is but one iron-clad clause put forth by the parent society, and that is regarding eligibility. Only those who can prove that they are descendants from the "good old New England stock" can be admitted.

The society meets semi-monthly at Delmonico's, where entertainments of the best order are given. Luncheons, five each season, are also given there and are truly a symposium, i. e., "a scene of merry making and good cheer."

This season, the crowning social event will be the celebration of "Organization Day," January 24th, when the society enters its seventh year. The celebration will be in the evening, and after a musical program, speeches and toasts from the President and members of the Men's New England Society will be a feature of the entertainment. A reception, supper and dance will close the festivities.

E. M. L., Sec. Press Com., N. S. N. E. W.

A GOOD RESOLVE FOR ALL CLUBS.

We promise to do all in our power to refrain from any unkind remarks during club meetings or elsewhere, feeling that

"Life is too short to waste,
In critic peep or cynic bark,
Quarrel or reprimand;
'Twill soon be dark.
Let us up and mind our own aim
And God speed the mark!"

WHAT THEY SAY OF US.

I should consider it a real misfortune to be deprived of this Club Woman's friend and helper. Besides keeping one in touch with club "doings" all over our beloved country it directs thought and suggests ideas and furnishes examples, and to me it is always welcome.—Mrs. J. Sewall Reed, Dorchester, Mass.

The "Story of the Fifth Biennial" is told so cleverly as to prove delightful to those in attendance as well as those not so fortunate, and the contents of each number of your admirable magazine is of such value that no club member can afford to be without it. —Mrs. M. D. Thatcher, Pueblo, Col., ex-President Colorado Federation.

A Club Woman without The Club Woman is in the same predicament as a household without a cook, and I cannot afford to miss a number.—Mabel V. D. Hutchison President of Iowa Federation.

"The Club Woman is 'all that it is cracked up to be,' and I enclose check for renewal.—Helen A. Whittier, vice-president Massachusetts Federation.

I have not received my Club Woman this month, although I sent my dollar for renewal last week. I suppose I could exist were the dollar lost, but The Club Woman—NO.—Caroline T. Dupee, President Book Review Club.

The club women of Oklahoma and Indian Territory are beginning to feel that it isn't being quite "respectable and up-to-date" if they do not take at least one copy of The Club Woman in each club, and they always apologize if they fail to do so. It will soon become an individual matter, and every club woman will take it as she does her dinner, because it is good and absolutely necessary to her intellectual and spiritual growth.—Mrs. Selwyn Douglas, president Territorial Federation, Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

"The Club Woman is a bright publication, not only up-to-date, but at least half a century ahead of time."—The Cincinnati Suburban News.

The Club Woman is my joy and pride and I congratulate you on its success. Didn't we have a good time in Milwaukee, and what a good report you gave?—Emma H. Eldredge, Colorado Springs, last State Chairman for Colorado.

The Club Woman has made a place for itself in our household, as well as with club women in general and I take pleasure in renewing my subscription.—Mrs. James Sidney Peck, Milwaukee, Wis.

Owosso, Mich., Dec. 6, 1900.

My Dear Editor:

This whole evening I have spent reading the December number of The Club Woman and marking valuable passages in its columns that I intend to read at the next meetings of our clubs. I want to share them with all our club women, for they are both inspiring and practical. The Club Woman should be in every club woman's home. I take this moment, when I am fresh from reading its columns, to tell you how much I value it.

Josephine M. Gould,
Vice-President Michigan State Federation.

CURRENT EVENTS.

December 12th was the centennial anniversary of the day when the seat of government was moved from Philadelphia to Washington. The day was made a holiday in the Capitol City.

The President and Cabinet led a procession from the White House to the Capitol, and everybody was wild with enthusiasm. If the spirit of Davie Burns looked down he (or it?) may have found some things at which to be surprised.

One event of the day was the unveiling in the East Room of the model of the proposed enlargement of the White House. The late Mrs. Harrison drew a plan for such a scheme which seemed practical and feasible. Whether this is better or more desirable is a problem which gives opportunity for doubt.

A committee has been appointed by the House of Representatives in Congress to investigate the hazing at West Point of the late O. L. Booz of Bristol, Penn., who, it is claimed by his friends, died in consequence thereof.

The canal commission has decided in favor of the Nicaragua route for the Oceanic canal. The "Hay-Pauncefote Treaty" in relation to it, is likely to be over-ruled by Congress. Only time can demonstrate whether the wisdom of the many is superior to the deliberations of the few.

The United States government has completed an arrangement with Venezuela for a "parcels post" between the two countries, which will undoubtedly open up a large trade in such things as can be safely sent by post, and must prove a convenience to individuals as well.

Oklahoma claims a population of 400,000 and is clamoring for statehood.

Everyone will be glad to know that up to December tenth, the relief fund for Galveston had reached \$1,174,508.53. The disaster was awful, but American generosity is something for which to be glad.

It is generally believed that Queen Victoria is failing mentally and that there must soon arise the question of appointing a regency. On Princess Beatrice has already fallen all the burdens and responsibilities of not only of performing all the official duties of the Queen, but of covering and hiding the facts from public gaze. Who but a loving daughter could do this?

The cabled statement that Her Majesty prorogued Parliament in a speech of twenty-nine words may be herewith explained possibly.

British sympathizers with the Boers are likely to be "sent to Coventry," a peculiarly English method of punishment which has the merit of being usually efficacious.

The war cloud hanging over Holland and Portugal it is still hoped may be cleared away. Although the ministers of these two countries, respectively, have returned home, it is believed that investigations and explanations of the causes of the misunderstanding will open a dignified way out of the muddle. The Portuguese Government affirms that the Dutch Consul had permitted the importation of contraband articles and demanded his recall. Holland refused this on the ground that

time should be given for an investigation. The government at Lisbon, however, withdrew the equator of Herr Pott—the Consul—and the minister was called upon to make explanations. Meantime, the Consul had asked to be allowed to come home on a visit, and the home government of Holland insists upon waiting till the Consul has arrived and stated his case.

The Chamber of Deputies in France has voted to prohibit the manufacture and sale of absinthe, together with other drinks declared injurious by the Academy of Medicine. It is interesting to note that among these are certain "American mixtures known as gin-fizz, cocktail and sherry flip." If the bill passes the other house, there will naturally be an exodus of Americans, and what will Paris do then?

Kruger's visit to Europe has proven disappointing, notwithstanding the enthusiastic popular reception he received in France. The German Emperor refused him an audience, and even Holland has declined to offer arbitration between England and the Transvaal. The suggestion made months ago by the United States to aid in the matter of arbitration was so peremptorily refused by England that other nations are shy of entering the lists. As the German Chancellor said: "There is no use for us to pinch our fingers between the door and the hinge." It was evident to each great power, that any step which seemed to favor the Boers, was critical and might lead to serious results.

Meantime, De Wet, who, in the absence of Kruger, is recognized as the head of the Boers, has evaded capture when in imminent peril and has turned against his pursuers, giving battle, coming off victorious and taking over five hundred prisoners. Lord Roberts, in his farewell speech at Cape Town, shows commendable charity and good feeling, and explains some things charged as cruel, as only a part of the necessities of war.

His successor, Lord Kitchener, was not prominently lenient in the Soudan, but has at least the virtue of brevity in his reports and dispatches. He probably recognizes the fact that the war is not wholly "over" and is keeping his words for future occasions.

The disturbance in China has proven the fact that the United States as a nation is rapidly becoming a recognized leader, both in peace and war, and it is freely acknowledged that the favorable prospects of peace negotiations in the celestial (?) country are largely due to the diplomacy, moderation and firmness of our government. The agreement holds China responsible for the outrages of the Boxers and others, insists on the punishment of the leaders and demands indemnity for the murder of foreigners and expenses of the relief expeditions sent to Tien Tsin and Peking. It insists on certain reforms and establishes conditions which will minimize future dangers.

The death of ex-Governor Roger Wolcott of Massachusetts, which occurred December 21st, is not only a local grief, but a national loss. His public life attests his irreproachable character, his unpurchasable integrity, his distinguished ability. He was the exponent of that courtesy and chivalry which marked the "gentlemen of the old school," and his name proclaimed him to the manner born. His private life leaves to those who knew him a reverent love no words can portray and a grief that is languageless. Mr. Wolcott was recently before the public eye as a proposed ambassador to Italy, an honor which he declined.

F. H. H.

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

President, Mrs. Rebecca Douglas Lowe, 513 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:
MRS. DIMIES T. S. DENISON,
157 West 103rd St., New York, N. Y.RECORDING SECRETARY:
MRS. EMMA A. FOX,
21 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.TREASURER:
MRS. EMMA M. VAN VECHTEN,
1110 Second Avenue, Cedar Rapids, IowaSECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:
MRS. MARGARET J. EVANS,
Northfield, Minnesota.CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
MRS. GEORGE W. KENDRICK,
3507 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.AUDITOR:
MRS. GEORGE H. NOYES,
204 Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis.

THE GENERAL FEDERATION.

Philadelphia, December 15th, 1900.

My dear Miss Winslow:—

As Mrs. Fox and I agreed that she should report to you for November, this is the first opportunity I have had to congratulate you on "The Club Woman" this Fall. I do not see how any club woman can further her work to the fullest without a copy of your magazine by her side. A close application

to the contents will prevent many mistakes and conserve our energies. In these busy days it is of great moment that we should not waste any unnecessary effort.

It gives me great pleasure to give you a list of the committees that have been completed up to the present time. I also enclose list of names of appointments of Federation secretaries to date. Hoping same will reach you safely, and with kind regards, I am,

Ever sincerely yours,
Minnie M. Kendrick.

LIST OF COMMITTEES, G. F. W. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Rebecca Douglas Lowe, chairman, 513 Peachtree St., Ga.
Mrs. E. L. Buchwalter, 359 East High St., Springfield, O.
Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, "The Columbia," Washington, D. C.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Dimies T. S. Denison, 157 W. 103 St., New York City.
Mrs. Emma M. Van Vechten, 1110 Second Ave., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Mrs. Geo. W. Kendrick, Jr., 3507 Baring St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Mrs. Anna D. West, 18 Summit Ave., Somerville, Mass.
Mrs. Frederick Hanger, 1010 Scott St., Little Rock, Ark.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Miss Ellen C. Sabin, Milwaukee, Wis.
Mrs. May Alden Ward, 63 Kirkland St., Cambridge, Mass.
Dr. Lucy Langdon Williams Wilson, 640 N. 32nd St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Miss Lizzie L. Blumenstein, 521 Summer St., Nashville, Tenn.
Miss Clara D. Coe, 19 Van Buren St., Deadwood, S. Dak.

The following is the completed list of members of the Committee on Reincorporation of the G. F. W. C.:

Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, chairman, "The Columbia," Ind.
Mrs. Cornelia C. Fairbanks, 1608 Parke Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
Mrs. Lucia E. Blount, 3101 U. S. N. W., Washington, D. C.
Mrs. M. E. Troutman, 118 W. 76th St., New York City.

Mrs. John L. McNeil, 930 Logan Ave., Denver, Col.
(Mrs. McNeil's winter address is "The Cochran," Washington, D. C.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR FEDERATION SECRETARIES.

IDAHO.

Mrs. D. W. Stanrod, Pocatello.
Mrs. Samuel H. Hays, 620 Franklin St., Boise.
Mrs. L. F. Henderson, Moscow.

KANSAS.

Mrs. C. C. Goddard, Leavenworth.

MONTANA.

Mrs. T. W. Buzzo, Butte.
Mrs. C. S. Mitchell, Great Falls.
Mrs. R. M. Goshorn, Kelispel.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Miss Clara D. Coe, Deadwood.
Mrs. Lucy P. Bryson, Gettysburg.
Mrs. T. H. Brown, 405 S. Phillips Ave., Sioux Falls.

OREGON.

Mrs. T. B. Wakeman, Silverton.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Mrs. Charles E. Adams, The Touraine, Boston, Mass.

TENNESSEE.

Mrs. B. F. Turner, 426 Washington St., Memphis.

DELAWARE.

Miss Mary H. Mather, 1021 Madison St., Wilmington.

RHODE ISLAND.

Mrs. Laura B. Edwards, Woonsocket.

ILLINOIS.

Mrs. George R. Bacon, Decatur.

"We trust that all women interested in the Biennial at Milwaukee will take pains to secure the summer issues of The Club Woman. We know of old how good an account of the proceedings will there be given."—The Club Owl.

One of the newest, neatest and nicest books for children on the market today is the "Sunbonnet Babies," by Miss Bertha L. Corbett. It is a daintily gotten up book with an illustrated green cover and illuminated title page, containing some half hundred pictures of babies in sunbonnets. Although not a face is to be seen, so natural is every pose and frolicsome antic that the pictures alone form a child-life story quite complete, even without the accompanying verses. The final charm of the whole book is its pure simplicity and the little sunbonneted babies in black and white are bound to play a determined part in the literature of children for the coming Christmas season throughout the country. Price \$1.00 post paid. Agent wanted. Address Bertha L. Corbett, 520 Medical block, Minneapolis, Minn.

STATE FEDERATION NEWS.

THROUGH the energetic efforts of the A. & W. C. president and Legislative Committee, Nov. 12th, was, by Gov. Jones, appointed Arbor Day, and as such was celebrated with fitting ceremonies all over the state.

The question of the respective merits of the Apple Blossom and Passion flower as the State flower, is agitating club circles in Arkansas; the champions of each emblem being earnest and active in pressing their claims upon the legislators-elect, who will assemble at our State Capitol in January, 1901.

The club women of Texarkana, under the able leadership of the city Federation president, Mrs. F. L. Wisdom, are active in all the problems relating to social, civic and intellectual advancement. Their latest efforts have been concentrated upon furnishing several rooms in the new hospital erected in the Border City.

The Woman's Co-operative Association of Little Rock was organized in 1895, with a free public library as its basic idea. The altruistic spirit to do more for others and less for self; to focus the energies of the club chiefly upon the future, commends this club to hosts of women who realize that the future should always be the best, and that they should individually contribute to the advancement of humanity. This association is departmental, affording the largest interest to a whole gamut of tastes from the most aesthetical in the fine arts to the plainest feature in the "weird question" of Household Economics. With a membership of two hundred and thirty-five intelligent and zealous women, led by a president—Mrs. Mary S. Kinsworthy—whose work for the club is whole hearted and whose interest never flags, the word fail with reference to the programs is unknown. The meetings are semi-monthly with crowded houses.

The library, under the auspices of this club, is constantly receiving additions by way of private donations and fresh orders of new books. Several delightful functions are in contemplation for the near future, whereby it is planned to add large interests to the library. Mrs. Neil Carothers.

INDIANA.

A State Federation of Clubs was formed in Indiana in March of the present year, and their first convention was held in South Bend on November 15 and 16. It was a very inspiring and promising occasion and the spirit throughout was notably altruistic and fraternal.

It was my privilege and pleasure to be present during the entire session, and I have never seen a better conducted convention, nor one in which the latest light on the educational and philanthropic problems which are today receiving the intelligent attention of women's clubs, was more earnestly and ably presented. I rejoice in the promising future of our sister Federation and in the superior womanhood of Indiana.

Reciprocity, philanthropy, education and art were discussed as lines of work to be undertaken by the Federation, and these four departments established. Instead of having the work of these departments carried on by committees, as is done in our state, it is placed in charge of directors, of whom there are seven on the executive board, two being assigned to each department.

A pleasant feature of the program was reports from individual clubs. In almost every case these were given without notes. Reports from clubs are always interesting and the

small number of clubs represented in the Federation, about thirty, made it possible for each to have a three-minute hearing.

In this connection I must say that I never saw a convention conducted with greater dispatch and with more perfect self-poise on the part of the presiding officer, Mrs. Rose Budd-Stewart of Muncie, who declined to accept a re-election but who was unanimously chosen honorary president. When I saw the full program and the amount of business to be covered in two days—three meetings—I fully expected that some things would have to be omitted. On the morning of the 16th the program included reports of officers, all the three-minute reports of federated clubs, four ten-minute papers on the four departments of work, discussions, and election of officers. At twelve o'clock everything was accomplished except the election. I thought of our own tedious elections and wondered how this one would come out, inasmuch as their constitution requires election by ballot. Someone proposed that the election go over to afternoon. Mrs. Stewart replied that the constitution required that it should take place on the morning of the second day and it would probably require only about ten minutes, so the election went on and it really was accomplished in about that time. Of course nominations were made from the floor, and the secretary was instructed in each case to cast the ballot of the convention for the nominee. Our Michigan authority, Waples, does not recognize such a procedure as an election by ballot, and our constitution requires that nominations, as well as elections, shall be by ballot, so we can never hope to accomplish an election with the dispatch of our Indiana sister. I was sure, after the experience of that forenoon, that the full program would be given as announced.

The four principal addresses of the convention were as follows: President's Address, Mrs. Rose Budd-Stewart, Muncie; "The Nature and Use of Government," Miss Minnetta T. Taylor, Greencastle; "The Value of Definite Direction in Club study," Mrs. Ella Adams Moore, Chicago University; "The Historic Development of Russian Women," Madame Sophie L. Friedland, Moscow.

The president's address was a resume of the aim and development of the club movement, and a call to women to catch the message of the hour, co-operation on common ground for high purposes, and interchange of helps for larger development.

Miss Taylor is a close student of civil government, being familiar with political conditions everywhere, and her address was a scholarly presentation of her subject. I have never heard a more helpful address to the individual club woman than the one given by Mrs. Moore, who is a very ready and winning speaker. Madame Friedland's address was given at the evening reception on the 16th. She is a fine type of the brilliant and progressive Russian woman of today, and she has a command of our language, a knowledge of her subject, and a charm of manner which combine to make her an attractive speaker.

The new president of the Federation is Mrs. Jane McM. Smith of South Bend, to whom much of the success of the convention is due. The other officers are: Vice-presidents, Mrs. Alice M. Lewis, Auburn, Miss Minnetta T. Taylor, Greencastle, Mrs. Bryan, La Grange; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth G. Kettring, South Bend; recording secretary, Mrs. Wood, Valparaiso; treasurer, Mrs. Allicia H. Barnes, Auburn; directors, Mrs. Virginia Sharpe Patterson, Kokomo; Mrs. Susan W. Coleman, Loganport; Miss Mary E. Cardwell, New Albany; Miss Emma Belle Goodin, Muncie; Mrs. Mary S. Stude-

baker, South Bend; Mrs. C. C. Shaffer, Auburn; Mrs. Alice M. Mummert, Goshen. The next annual convention will be held in Auburn on Wednesday and Thursday of the second week in October, 1901.

Here are some of the thoughts from my note book, taken as they are given:

"We overfeed mentally. We can only be cured by a careful diet. The way we read the daily newspaper is wicked. The whole of a newspaper isn't for you or for me. When we get through, what have we? We can't remember and we don't want to. We go from that to the immortal poem and we cannot remember that. It goes into the rubbish pile with the rest. What is the remedy. Definite direction."

"Look at the head-lines in the daily paper and decide which is for you, and let the rest go."

"Like the children of the slums, most of the new books die in infancy. The safest way is not to read a new book until it is ten years old."

"If you have a topic for the club it is remarkable how everybody is talking and thinking of your subject. It is the result of definite direction. Nothing gives so much value to reading as definite direction."

"No one thing has done so much for education in the last half of the nineteenth century as women's clubs. The woman's club is a school after school-days are over. It is the university of the busy."

"Fragmentary knowledge is no knowledge. Only related facts are remembered. Definite direction is the Ariadne's thread which will find the light. Group your facts and you will remember them. Association of ideas is what we need. Leave them lying loose and we forget. Link your related facts to one central related fact."

"Cataloguing does for a library what an association of ideas does for man. Get ideas into shape and memory comes. Catalogue your brains."

"The only question is one of detail—how to do this relating. All programs should be made out the year before, to catch the summer chance to study."

"Our programs are too miscellaneous. Have one idea running through the year's work. Definite direction saves time, that blessed commodity that we have so little of. Who are you that you ask my time? Give me the password."

"We need qualified leaders to give direction. And then we want the spirit to follow. Let no petty jealousy keep her from her place in the club. Let us get our money where we can. The pedigree of honey does not concern the bee."

"Go to the author to get his meaning, not yours."

"Never go to study as if it were a job. Go with joy."

"Strictly speaking, there are no independent forces."

"The member of a federated club feels that she is a link in the great chain that binds the world together."

"To make a happy difference in the lives close around her is the mission of the club woman."

"The Federation should collect the latest and best thoughts on club work and then act as a great distributor to clubs."

"Evil is the incompatibility of what is with what ought to be."

"We feel the thing we ought to be, beating beneath the thing we are."

"A small object held close to the eye will obscure many larger ones farther away."

"No large inclusive organization can be made up of exclusive clubs."

"Give to the world the best you have and the best will

come back to you."

"The object of a bureau of reciprocity is to make clubs mutually helpful. It should be a storehouse of information. The reciprocity idea is, 'Not what we give, but what we share.' It is the perfect fruit of Federation. Federation and reciprocity are synonymous terms. It means the greatest good to the greatest number. It is the commerce of ideas."

"If the heart be truly ready for the service the opportunity will be found."

Belle M. Perry.

IOWA.

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Iowa Federation was held at Burlington in October, and many matters of importance were discussed, including plans for the biennial meeting of the Federation, to be held next May in Council Bluffs. Chairman and members of standing committees were invited to attend the conference, and the work of each committee was reported. The Educational Committee reported that the members of the committee were succeeding in arousing public sentiment in favor of compulsory education in the state, although they were unsuccessful in their efforts to obtain a compulsory education law from the last legislature. The committee have prepared outlines of study relating to educational matters for clubs and is active in other ways. The Art Committee reported a growing interest among the clubs of the state in the movement for art in the schools, and offered suggestions for that part of the program at the next biennial that can be given to that division of the Federation. The Library Committee reported its work in co-operation with the Special Library Committee in arousing interest in the State Library Commission Bill which was passed by the last legislature and is now an established fact. A motion was made and carried that the Federation co-operate in every possible manner with the Iowa Library Association and State Library Commission in aiding library work in the state. The Village Improvement Committee is collecting statistics of the work already accomplished in the state and expects to begin an active campaign in the Spring. The Household Economics Committee has succeeded in interesting a large number of clubs in work relating to domestic science, and their little booklet containing outlines of study is in demand.

The most important step taken at this meeting of the Executive Board was the formation of a committee for Club Extension with one member from each congressional district in the state. The work of the committee will be to become thoroughly acquainted with the clubs in each district for the purpose of establishing helpful relations between them. Each member of the committee will be expected to accept all invitations to visit clubs in her district in an official capacity; to organize a district Federation if desired, and to hold at least one annual meeting. It will be the duty of this committee to strengthen the relation between the clubs and the Federation in every feasible way; to represent the interests of each district at the biennial meetings of the State Federation and to represent the interests of the Federation by explaining to the clubs its plans, aims and methods. It will also be the duty of members of this committee to assist in the organization of new clubs when requested to do so, and to present the benefits of Federation to unfederated clubs, particularly in the country districts. Mrs. Martha E. Ellick, vice-president of the Iowa Federation, will be the chairman of this committee, and a meeting will soon be called in Des Moines to formulate the work of the committee and get it well in hand.

Another important result of the meeting of the Executive Board at Burlington was the decision to ask every club woman to work for industrial training in the public schools, or for public sentiment with that end in view. The feeling is that compulsory education does little good as long as the poor boy fails to receive any help or training for the mechanical work which will be his life work.

The work planned for 1900-1901 by Iowa clubs is now well under way, and in looking over the new year books one finds a large number of carefully arranged and well thought out study programs. Club programs have passed—and are still passing—through an evolutionary process since the beginning of the club movement. At first the tendency was everywhere to undertake more than it was possible to carry out with any degree of thoroughness. It is certainly gratifying to note that crowded programs are no longer the rule. In Iowa the number of clubs which arrange to bring to their town or city each year some of the best lectures procurable is increasing, making it possible for others outside the club to share in the pleasure and profit.

The last report shows that Iowa has 199 federated clubs, fifteen having been admitted during the last year.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FEDERATION.

A report of the annual meeting is necessarily left over till another issue, but the officers elected are: Mrs. M. L. Tanner, president; Mrs. H. B. Sperry, vice-president; Miss M. L. Bennett, recording secretary; Miss F. G. French, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Weiss, treasurer; Miss A. G. Burke, auditor.

Mrs. Carrie E. Kent, ex-president of the Washington, D. C., Federation, is visiting her son in Havana, and reaping a harvest of new experiences and observations in Cuba. Mrs. Kent is to be congratulated on the recovery of her son from yellow fever—a name which always carries with it a shuddering terror, but which in this instance was mercifully lenient. Mrs. Kent is located in a Spanish suburb of Havana, and says: "Thus far, I have only met two or three Americans, and as I speak little Spanish, am obliged to use my eyes for all they are worth. Have seen much that is sad, shiftless, beautiful and interesting. In so short a time I have no right to express opinions. A lady called last night who speaks English, and I hope later to get into the inner life of some of the women here." No woman is better fitted to get close to the hearts of strangers than Mrs. Kent, and there is little doubt of her helpful success.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Following are the annual reports of the committees on Social Service and Civil Service Reform of our Massachusetts State Federation:

This would seem to be the occasion for telling what the Massachusetts clubs are doing in the way of service to their several communities, and your committee endeavors herewith to give you such items as it has been able to secure, not for one instant supposing this to be an exhaustive report, and not taking to itself credit for having originated all that is here recorded. Some clubs were working these lines before the Massachusetts Federation was formed, much more before it created its Committee on Social Service. The circular of that committee was issued to make suggestions to clubs that had not up to that time undertaken such work, and for the purpose of keeping all in touch.

CURFEW BELL.

With reference to the ordinance of the curfew bell we have to report progress on the part of the clubs, if not accomplishment. Opposition is strong from the very people whose children would be most benefited by the ordinance. The Clinton Women's Club has made two distinct efforts to secure the passage of the law, the second attempt all but succeeding. The president writes: "It is safe to say nothing ever stirred the town of Clinton to such depths."

The Quinshipaug Woman's Club of Milford secured the passage of the law by the town, but it was vetoed by the county judge. Taking heart from Cambridge and Newton, we venture to predict success in the near future for Clinton and Milford and the rest.

STAMP SAVINGS SOCIETY.

A great many clubs have taken preliminary steps towards establishing branches of the Stamp Savings Society. The Wattertown Woman's Club has a most flourishing branch in the charge of its philanthropy committee. A club member serves as cashier, the club having advanced the money to start the work. Although the branch was not opened till February last, there are two hundred contributors on the list at present, the largest deposit in one week being \$24.02. The club plans to establish headquarters in two other buildings in the fall while continuing work in its present office.

Since February three hundred children have become depositors in the branch established by the Ousamequin Club of Bridgewater, and nearly three hundred dollars have been deposited. Several of the children have saved enough to open an account in the local savings bank.

SHORTER WORK DAY.

We are happy to report the enactment of the law making fifty-eight hours the working week for women and children in mercantile establishments. Club women have worked with a will to enlist sympathy in the movement on the part of legislators.

CONSUMERS' LEAGUE.

The officers of the Consumers' League have travelled far and wide to present the subject before the clubs. They report that local leagues have been formed by the Social Science Club of Newton, Afternoon Club of Dedham, Thursday Morning Club of Great Barrington, while Cantabrigia of Cambridge and Women In Council of Roxbury have co-operating committees. The last report gives the membership of the league as over 1400. Where are we 21,000 club women of Massachusetts that this number is so small? De we claim to ask always for properly made goods and to demand those bearing the label of the league without affiliation with the parent league? Let us see to it that we be not counted laggards in the fight with the sweat shop. Surely we are not women, who, as Mrs. Florence Kelley, secretary of the National Consumers' League, puts it, are not willing to pay for our own clothes, but prefer to accept them as a gift, and that from the poorest of the poor!

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT.

The Reading Woman's Club reports the creation of a Village Improvement Committee. Two public meetings were held and much enthusiasm aroused. Trees were planted on Arbor Day, caterpillars' nests were removed, and efforts made to save shade trees from being ruined by electric wires.

Such a committee was formed by the Kosmos Club of Wakefield; Arbor Day was observed publicly by the school children for the first time; trees, vines and shrubs were planted on school grounds.

The Stoneham Woman's Club gave money from its treas-

ury that trees might be planted by the roadside on Arbor Day by the school children. This club is working to preserve birds and flowers that are ruthlessly killed out in that neighborhood.

The Clinton Woman's club has brought about the observance of Arbor Day. Appropriate exercises were held in the schools the day previous, and trees, vines, shrubs or flower seeds were planted by each school, club members visiting the schools in person. The club decorated with shrubs the square given for the erection of a chilled water fountain. Organization Row now numbers forty trees, the Woman's Club tree leading.

The Social Service Committee of Great Barrington got permission from the selectmen to plant ampelopsis around the town hall.

Successful fight has been made with caterpillars by the Medford Women's Club and Current Topics Club of Lancaster; but we have nothing to match the story of the extermination of the mosquito pest by the Women's Club of Richmond Hill, Long Island.

The Winthrop Woman's Club showed great sagacity in taking advantage of its last gentlemen's night to secure their interest and promise of co-operation in village improvement work.

We must leave the schools to the Education Committee, but often action in this direction is also in the line of village improvement and social service: as the work of the Attleborough Round Table in improvement of school grounds; of the Hudson Woman's Club in planting shrubs on high school grounds and ivy on the town hall; Weymouth's planting shade trees on school grounds, etcetera, etcetera.

The Amherst Woman's Club, Ayer Woman's Club, Medford Woman's Club are doing successful battle for beautiful environment. The work of planting trees has been continued by the Home Club of East Boston, a pioneer in this line. The Roxburghe Club of Roxbury has had charge of the placing of 1500 trees this spring, trees given by the Department of Public Grounds of the City of Boston. Fitchburg, Lancaster, Winchester and Woburn deserve honorable mention here.

We note with pleasure the formation of committees on forestry. New Hampshire's Daughters have contributed money toward the preservation of the New Hampshire forests.

IN GENERAL.

The clubs report courteous treatment from public officials, and show that everywhere effort has been made to co-operate with existing powers. The Friendly Aid Committee of the Wellesley Hills Woman's Club visited the town farm at the request of the selectmen and suggested specific alterations in the building. This committee has been a great power for good to its community, as has also the Social Science Club of Newton. The latter has established a bureau of information that is entirely in the hands of the club, is self-supporting and highly successful. The club is working to train girls to be good home keepers, with the belief that the attractive and comfortable home is the surest rival of the liquor saloon.

The Middlesex Club of Lowell printed and distributed portions of the City Ordinances relating to street cleaning, thus showing the violation of rules whose very existence the public was in ignorance of. Through its Committee on Sociology it is laboring to secure an economic and scientific removal of ashes and the cremation of the city's garbage. It is working against indecent advertising and agitating the question of public baths.

The Northborough Woman's Club secured from private individuals ground to be used for a public dump, but the town

has not yet been persuaded to assume charge of the matter. A number of waste barrels have been procured, and a band of boys organized into a Village Improvement Society to care for the waste barrels and to keep the streets clear of papers. Seats have been placed where the public might be accommodated, but care has been taken to avoid favorite lounging places.

The Woburn Woman's Club supplied the city with six waste paper boxes, to be cared for by the city, and has petitioned for a greater number of water troughs for the use of the smaller animals.

The Colonial Club of Marlborough purchased garbage barrels two years ago, and gave them to the city with the understanding that the city empty them and keep them painted. More barrels have been added each year.

The Quinshipaug Woman's Club of Milford has arranged meetings and brought parents and teachers together with the hope of benefiting directly the children through the conference of those interested in them.

In Roxbury a Social Settlement was to be given up, when committees of the two women's clubs took hold of the matter, called a mass meeting, and were the direct means of forming a new organization for the continuance of the settlement, the club women being fully represented on the new council.

The Riverside Club of Saugus offered prizes to children between ten and fourteen years of age for the best work done in the summer vacation by the children themselves, the work to be vouched for by the parents. Thirty-nine brought specimens of their work, in sewing, fancy work, cooking, carpentry, gardening. The first prize went to a boy of twelve for best results in gardening, a fine display of vegetables with record of sales during the summer. A boy of ten received a prize for a henhouse, 24x10, pitch roof, five windows, two slides, one door, having done all but raise the roof without help. The story of the children's labors reads like a fairy tale.

The Monday Club of Weymouth writes that it allies itself with all that tends to the improvement and good government of the town. This is true of many clubs that have worked nobly for hospitals, libraries, for the common weal.

No report could be complete without mention of the conference of Presidents and State Officers, held at Melrose in November, to discuss the question: "What Social Service ought a Woman's Club to render to its Community?"

The committee takes great pleasure in reporting that Miss Helen M. Cole, in the name of the Social Service Committee of the Massachusetts Federation and accompanied by its chairman, went to the Concord Reformatory one Sunday in May to tell the story of the Life of Jesus to several hundred convicts, and herself says that she never spoke to a more responsive audience. The local paper spoke enthusiastically of the visit, concluding with the words: "It is not too much to say that Miss Cole retained the unflagging interest of the audience from beginning to end." The following Sunday Miss Cole spoke to the women at the Sherborn Reformatory at the vesper service, and Mrs. Morton, the superintendent, reports that she has never known the women to be so much impressed with anything given them at devotional exercises.

We are glad to take public recognition of the indefatigable energy and devotion of Mrs. Alice Taylor Jacobs in the management of the Lecture Bureau. Her reports follows:—

The Lecture Bureau came into existence last fall, when Lecture No. 1, Landscape Beauties of the Metropolitan Park System, was issued. This lecture has been presented before the following clubs: Boston Grammar School Club, Middle-

sex Woman's Club, Ousamequin Club, Chelsea Woman's Club, Waban Women's Club, Lawrence Women's Club, Danvers Women's Association, Massachusetts Working Women's Association, First Parish Club (Brookline). The last two clubs are not of the Federation, and the privilege was extended to the former as a sister organization of the State, and to the latter in compliment to Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., who prepared the manuscript and was instrumental in obtaining the fifty slides presented by the courtesy of the Metropolitan Park Commission. Lecture No. 2, Town Improvement or Beautiful Surroundings, was made possible to the clubs through the untiring efforts of the chairman of the Social Service Committee, Miss Rowe. Since its first appearance on April thirteenth, it has been given twice before the New Bedford Woman's Club, and twice before the Fitchburg Woman's Club, and to the Alpha Club of East Blackstone, Ayer Woman's Club, Women In Council, Natick Woman's Club, Plymouth Woman's Club and Cantabrigia. Generally speaking, town officers, clergymen and teachers have been invited to hear the lecture, and the meeting has been made a public occasion. One hundred and eighteen letters have been written in connection with the work and inquiries have been made and great interest shown outside our own Federation, from California, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. The committee takes pleasure in acknowledging at this time the substantial aid of the Fortnightly Club of Winchester, the Fitchburg Woman's Club and Women In Council in the production of the second lecture, and at the same time we express our obligation to the Fortnightly Club of Winchester, Amherst Woman's Club, Dedham Women's Club, Ayer Woman's Club and Medford Woman's Club for valuable contributions of slides. The following financial statement shows the actual cost to the Federation of the production of these lectures to be less than nineteen dollars apiece:

Received Fortnightly Club (Winchester)	\$ 5 00	
Received Fitchburg Woman's Club....	10 00	
Received Women In Council (Roxbury)	5 00	
Received Mrs. Alice Taylor Jacobs in charge of Bureau.....	5 54	
	<hr/>	\$25 54
Expenditures.		
To F. L. Olmsted, Jr., extra slides Lecture No. 1.....	\$11 70	
To B. F. White (Cornell) slides.....	3 60	
To J. H. Thurston box, etc.....	2 40	
To J. H. Thurston slides.....	17 75	
To League for Social Service (New York)	22 26	(\$57 71)
To Copying Manuscript.....	3 00	
To Expenses.....	2 29	
	<hr/>	\$63 00
Paid by Federation.....	\$37 46	
	<hr/>	\$63 00

These are some of the things that the Massachusetts clubs are doing. But above and beyond all specific acts we put the desire for service that is everywhere spreading. No club is any longer content to live unto itself. All are reaching out to help the world to nobler living. We believe that what Massachusetts women really set their hearts upon they get, never

despairing of final success, however long deferred. Then with "service" for our watchword, let us go forward under the able leadership of our honored President, in whom as chairman of this committee on Social Service we recognize the source and inspiration of much that we have just recorded.

Caroline S. Atherton, For the Committee.

Your Committee on Civil Service Reform has to report very satisfactory results from the work of the past eight months.

Your representative is in correspondence with the presidents and heads of committees of the greater number of Federations, also with clubs and individuals in the different states. We have secured the hearty sympathy and co-operation of men and women who are working in different branches of social science. We are indebted for suggestions and help to officers of the National and State Civil Service Reform Associations of the National Municipal League, of civic clubs, Merchants' Association, members of Social Science and Charities and Corrections Conferences, and principals of high schools, as well as to private individuals in all parts of the country.

At the autumn meeting of eight Federations, the subject of civil service reform is to be brought before the assembled clubs, either by the presidents in addresses, or by special papers; and official literature, such as we have here, is to be distributed. The states that are to do this are Connecticut, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, New York and Illinois, where two papers on the subject are to be read. At the last meeting in several of the states the movement was endorsed and co-operation promised. There is also preparation for the bringing forward of the subject at the next meeting. And in still other Federations the presidents are deeply interested, are circulating literature and are full of intelligent suggestion as to the work.

Sixty public libraries in the country have received complete sets of the pamphlet form of the Reports of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, to lie on their reading-room tables all summer and be given away this autumn. Libraries in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Connecticut and other states have shown themselves interested.

The paper prepared by your representative has been circulated and printed in newspapers and weekly journals in every state in the union, and your committee thinks this work, which seems well under way and only needs to be kept in wise and orderly channels, will be of steadily increasing value to our national life.

We suggest that no public action be taken by individual clubs or by the Federation, except by the advice and co-operation of the State or National Civil Service Reform Associations, which as organizations of years' standing have a knowledge of what has been done in the past and what may be planned for the future.

We have received requests from clubs for speakers on "The Merit System." Arrangements are not yet completed to fill these calls. The clubs might appoint certain days when the best literature on the subject could be read and discussed. The Bibliography published by the Women's Auxiliary of New York gives titles of articles in the different reviews and magazines, which are better than anything which can be prepared specially for you.

There are also books treating of allied subjects, or giving the fundamental instruction we all need. Among these books we may mention:

"The State." By Prof. Woodrow Wilson (last edition).

"History of the Constitution." Bancroft.

"Unforeseen Tendencies of Democracy." Godkin.

"Modern Political Institutions." Judge Simeon E. Baldwin.

"Colonial Civil Service." A. Lawrence Lowell.

"The Genesis of the Social Conscience." Prof. Nash.

A winter may be devoted wisely to a thorough study of the theories and principles upon which this government is founded, and also to close observation of the methods by which it is administered. We must have knowledge of the manner in which the central power through patronage comes into a normal relation with state politics. We must know how the abuse of the power to appoint has created the spoils system, which is a fatal element in political life and inconsistent with our theory of what America is to stand for among the nations.

It is not a source of satisfaction to a patriot that, as regards a well-ordered Civil Service, we stand on the level of states like Morocco, rather than with the great nations of the world.

Nothing can be more inconsistent with the theory of our institutions than the spoils system. We have reverted to the methods of despotisms and of absolute governments. The pedigree of spoils is clear. Officers were given in the Eastern and early Western days to the favorites of rulers, both men and women. The spoils system under a so-called constitutional monarchy may be studied in the England of Robert Walpole, when it was said "every man had his price."

Dates are convenient points of departure, and 1769 in England is of special interest to us Americans. Then was formed a society which called itself by the name, "Supporters of the Bill of Rights," and three items of their program were "the exclusion of place holders from Parliament; the acknowledgment of America's rights of self-taxation, and the satisfaction of Irish grievances."

From 1769 to 1831, the year of the great Reform Bill, the movement for the purification of political life was steady. The principle which gave strength was the humanitarian or democratic movement for the amelioration of the condition of the down-trodden, depressed or unfortunate members of a community. Measures dealing with the factory system, with the problem of the education of the people, laws freeing laborers from unjust restrictions, and improving asylums, workhouses, etc., all came in orderly progression; elevating, and bringing into working relations men and women of different antecedents but with common purpose.

On the wave of this movement came the great culmination—government was taken from the privileged class and given to the people, and England set to work to clean her house.

Then began the theory and application of the merit system, as we like to call it, by which offices in the employ of the state were thrown open to free competition and no longer used as a bribery fund in the hands of unscrupulous politicians. And today in England an election is possible on great issues alone, with little promise or threat of "turning out the ins, or putting in the outs."

Why should we cut ourselves away from the principles that are democratic in their very essence and revert to an earlier or more elementary point in the progression of nations?

There is no explanation except that the people do not understand, are too much absorbed in their own affairs, or indifferent to their duties as citizens to take a living interest in details of government policy.

A Democracy is in its essence government by public opinion as expressed in our national, state, town, village and home centres. Wherever this "social conscience" expresses itself in wise, coherent purpose, there do we create the forces that stand back of noble legislation and faithful administration. So we press responsibility for government back to the unit, man or woman.

When we look out on our country and see these groups of women gathered into clubs and Federations, must we not feel here is a great element in our national consciousness which, if it rightly direct itself, can develop and strengthen the best tendencies in our civilization?

In our clubs we find women who are working in other organizations, both philanthropic and educational. They serve on boards connected with such matters as Prison Reform, Factory Inspection, Tenement House Reform, Associated Charities. They are employees, paid and unpaid, of state and city. They work with Public School Associations, Municipal League, Good Government and Civic Clubs; they go to Conferences of Charities and Corrections. In all these interests they find the spoils system tarnishing public work and lowering the public standard. They also find it almost impossible to rouse public interest in an effective manner.

Women who are outside the rougher contact and special temptations of political life are coming to understand more and more clearly the defects of our administrative system. They find the method of securing public service opposed to all that their own experience has taught them as wise. They do not need to be convinced of the value of the merit system, they wish to understand more exactly its methods and to learn how it may be made the law of applied politics. They see that neither man nor woman has motive to do his best,—if subject to loss of position through the passing from power of a political party. They know that faithful, trained service does its work well and economically, because intelligently, and that there is left vitality and noble leisure with which to labor for the finer purposes of the home and of the community.

An investigation of the subject of Civil Service Reform is a natural and simple method of political education directed as it is by no party nor sectional bias. We are led almost insensibly to the study of constitutional government to the analysis of the way in which our laws are made, of the methods by which candidates are nominated, until we come face to face with the great idea upon which our American civilization was founded, the Democratic idea projected into the form of government called a Republic.

A Democracy is not primarily a perfect government, but rather, a long and slow educational process, whose aim is the training of each unit into the conviction of personal responsibility for the well being of all.

Our country is considering her new responsibilities in a way that throws light on our internal methods, and there is much searching of heart.

We all feel the need of some living centre to which to bring these problems of social life and work, and from which to educate public opinion in a temperate and self-controlled manner. Our clubs and Federations should fill this position; should be groups to be consulted, whose opinion should enter as a serious factor into plans made for the good of the community.

It is a great step forward, when our State Federations appoint Civil Service Reform Committees; a movement we trust to be taken up, finally, in all our states, that we may

have affiliated committees gathering and distributing information. We hope to have inter-state meetings, national conferences, social science conventions, with men and women to address us on these great subjects, the committees in return to report to their State Federations.

Here we shall have no new organization, nothing artificial, but the natural moving forward of the thing which already exists. Which diverts no interest already existing, which interferes with no work already planned, but simply directs into a fine, national, patriotic activity, energy which longs to express itself in some adequate way.

Here we have an interest which rises above local or party considerations into national importance; a common interest for all our clubs in all our states, binding us together in a permanent sympathy which nothing can destroy.

Teaching us to understand problems other than our own. Teaching us to know our whole land, making us citizens of no mean country. Calling us away from the local and conditioned into the larger life of the whole civilization, with its manifold needs and its one necessity—the raising the standard of public life and political administration.

Concord, Massachusetts.

THE MEDFORD CLUB EPISODE.

When the resolutions of the Medford Woman's Club, withdrawing from the G. F. W. C. on account of the "color question," were passed, they were not only sent to all the Massachusetts clubs and the State Federation presidents, but they were given to the Associated Press and flashed all over the country, appearing in every daily paper on November 3, and copied into every weekly paper of consequence during the next ten days. Therefore, as *The Club Woman* did not appear again until December 1st, and as it is not our custom to reprint matter that has already become common property, we did not re-publish the Medford Club's resolutions of withdrawal. It is not true that we were asked and refused; we were not asked, and we refrained from doing so simply because of a habit of mind which is the result of many years' training in journalism, and which caused us to decide not to devote any of our overcrowded space to stale news. Tastes differ, however, and we are glad to give the entire correspondence—up to date of going to press—to the readers of *The Club Woman*:

November 2.

Whereas, The Executive Board of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, assembled at Milwaukee in June, 1900, refused to receive Mrs. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, an accredited delegate of Woman's Era Club, the New England Woman's Press Association, and also a member of the Executive Board of the Massachusetts State Federation, the reason being that she represented a club of colored women; therefore,

Resolved, That the Medford Woman's Club protests against such unjust and illegal action and withdraws from the General Federation.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Executive Board of the General Federation, the presidents of the State Federation and to all clubs in Massachusetts

To which the Massachusetts State Federation replied as follows:

To the Medford Women's Club:

The Executive Board of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs hereby acknowledges the receipt of the resolutions adopted by the Medford Women's Club, an-

nouncing its withdrawal from the membership of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

As the official organ of the General Federation in this State, the Executive Board feels obliged to point out to the Medford Women's Club that the reasons given for this action are apparently based on a misconception of the situation as it existed at the biennial meeting.

Mrs. Ruffin would have been permitted to take her seat in the convention as a delegate from the Massachusetts State Federation or from the New England Woman's Press Association had she chosen to do so. She was urged by the Credential Committee to take out credentials from one of these organizations, the question of color not operating against her as an individual. The question at issue was the broader one of the general policy of admitting clubs of colored women to the membership of the General Federation. The refusal of the General Federation Board to confirm the admission of the Women's Era Club and to honor its credentials, represented the convictions of one section of this country upon this policy; and also the desire of all sections to preserve the national character of our great organization. The right solution of this question is not to be reached by the withdrawal of the clubs of any section; therefore the Executive Board of the Massachusetts State Federation deeply regrets the hasty action of the Medford Women's Club, which deprives it of all further influence in shaping the future action of the General Federation.

Per order of the Executive Board.

Etta H. Glidden,
Corresponding Secretary.

Hotel Vendome, Nov. 14.

Finer Cake

and biscuit are made with Royal Baking Powder than in the old-fashioned way, with cream of tartar and soda, or saleratus and sour milk. The ingredients of Royal Baking Powder are most highly refined and absolutely pure. Royal is always uniform in strength, making food evenly good and wholesome. No spoiled or wasted materials where it is used.

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Medford Women's Club.

My Dear Miss Winslow:

At a meeting of the Medford Women's Club on Tuesday, December 11, the Executive Board voted to send a copy of the enclosed letter to *The Club Woman*—understanding that the letter will be printed in its columns.

Cordially yours,

Louise R. Atwood,
Corresponding Secretary.

Medford, December 12, 1900.

To the Executive Board of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs:

In reply to the letter of the Executive Board of the Massachusetts Federation to the Medford Women's Club, the latter club begs leave to state that, while the wording of the resolution of withdrawal which was passed by the Medford Women's Club may justify your board in saying "that the reasons given for this action are apparently based upon a misconception," nevertheless the Medford Women's Club labored under no misconception when it withdrew from the General Federation. It considers its reasons for withdrawal sufficient; it believes them sound. At the moment of passing the resolutions to withdraw its main object was withdrawal—the wording of its resolutions was of secondary importance. Granting that the club failed to express itself clearly in the wording of its resolutions, it expressed itself clearly in the act of withdrawal. Stripped of all technicality, it is a fact that Mrs. Ruffin, a colored woman, representing a club of colored women belonging to the Massachusetts State Federation, a duly accredited delegate from her club, was rejected by the General Federation. If the delegate of the Woman's Era Club had been a white woman, representing a club of white women, it is probably true that she would not have been rejected. The action of the Medford Women's Club may be wise or unwise, but it acted under no misconception of the situation.

If the president and secretary of the General Federation, in their letters of welcome to and acceptance to membership of the Woman's Era Club, if the treasurer, in receiving its money and giving its delegate proper credentials, if these officers were too hasty, and exceeded their duties or privileges, they should properly be the ones to suffer from the effects of too "hasty action," and not Mrs. Ruffin. We sympathize deeply with her, and through her we feel the direct affront given to an accredited delegate to a club belonging to the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs, and to a member of its Executive Board. The Medford Women's Club regrets that the Massachusetts State Federation did not withdraw from membership in the General Federation at its last biennial in consequence of this direct affront. But this expression of regret is not made in a spirit of conscious criticism any more than was the communication from the Executive Board to whom this is a reply. In this connection it is proper to bear in mind that the State Federation and this club are independent organizations, each accounting only to itself, each under the necessity of deciding its own action. This club in withdrawing from the General Federation was free from the guilt of "hasty action." The question of with-

drawal has been under consideration and discussion for over two years. It has felt the yearly dues to be excessively large, it has not approved of its relation, as a single club, to the General Federation. Most important of all, it has not been in sympathy with the actual results of that organization.

Louise R. Atwood,
Corresponding Secretary.

Per order of the Executive Board.
Medford, Dec. 11.

The third conference of the presidents of the Massachusetts State Federation was held at Hotel Vendome, Boston, Tuesday, December 18. Interest in the conference was shown by a large attendance, more than 100 of the 158 presidents being present, or represented by their appointees. Nearly every member of the executive board was also in attendance.

After Miss Rowe's cordial greeting to the presidents the report of the committee on the New England Conference, was given. This report, which was prepared by Miss Elizabeth B. Sharp, secretary of the committee, was substantially as follows:

In order to promote a closer acquaintance and greater unity of interest among the women's clubs of New England, the board of the Massachusetts State Federation has decided to call a conference of the New England clubs, to take the place of the quarterly meeting of the State Federation in April, 1901. The program as planned is as follows:

Thursday, April 11, P. M. Registration and informal reception at the rooms of the New England Woman's Club, Chipman Hall, with assignment to places of entertainment.

4 to 6 P. M. Reception at Dorchester. The Thursday Morning Fortnightly Club will hold a meeting in the Dorchester Woman's Club House, Thursday afternoon, April 11, and extends a cordial invitation to all visiting club women who care to do so, to attend the musical and literary exercises and afterward have tea with the members.

8 P. M. Meeting in Symphony Hall; program arranged by Civil Service Reform Committee. Symphony Hall is placed within the means of the Federation by the contribution of a generous sum of money from an unknown donor who does not wish his identity disclosed. Distinguished guests, among them Mrs. Denison of New York, first vice-president and acting president of the General Federation, will have seats on the platform.

Friday, April 12, A. M. Meeting in Malden Auditorium, Malden, Mass. The Old and New of Malden and The Ladies' Aid Association of Malden Hospital will be the hostesses of the occasion. In the morning there will be addresses on

TO THE CLUB WOMEN OF NEW ENGLAND.

I am positive that price, quality and style considered my stock of GLOVES is the most desirable in the city, and ask a share of your patronage.

MISS M. F. FISK,
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"The Problem of the City," "The Problem of the Country," to be followed by discussion. Lunch will be served, as usual, at State Federation meetings.

P. M. Conference, and reports by visiting state presidents.

8 to 10.30 P. M. Reception at Hotel Vendome.

The co-operation of all the Massachusetts clubs is needed to make this occasion a credit to themselves and to their Federation. It is desired to offer hospitality to delegates from a distance for two nights, Thursday and Friday, April 11th and 12th.

It is suggested that clubs near Boston offer to entertain a definite number of delegates, while those too far away to do so, assist the enterprise by gifts of money from their treasuries.

The committee will be greatly aided and encouraged in its work if responses from the clubs are sent to the secretary, Miss Elizabeth B. Sharp, 3 Allston street, Dorchester, as early as February 1, 1901.

The chairman of the Arts and Crafts Committee, Mrs. Ada W. Tillinghast of New Bedford, announced the offer by the State Federation through the Arts and Crafts Committee of two prizes of ten and fifteen dollars respectively, for the most artistic designs for guide board and post in wood. Competition is not restricted to club women, but any person living in Massachusetts may send in an original design. The merits of the work will be passed upon by a committee.

A circular containing more specific details will shortly be sent to the clubs.

The program of the conference had provided for a discussion from the floor on "What is the opportunity of the child

in the small town?" but this was omitted to give time for the consideration of a more serious and vital question.

Owing to the apparently increasing feeling among the clubs at the continued exclusion of the Woman's Era Club from the General Federation, and the desirability of having more light upon the situation before further action should be taken by individual clubs, it had been decided to bring the matter before the meeting, and Miss Rowe announced that Mrs. Anna D. West, former state chairman of correspondence, and now a director of the General Federation, would make a statement to the conference. Mrs. West gave a clear account of the circumstances attending the affair of the Woman's Era Club with the Federation,—her invitation, previous to the Biennial, to all clubs of the State Federation, not in the General Federation, to join that body, the application of the Woman's Era Club, the letters of Mrs. Lowe and Mrs. Kendrick to Mrs. Ruffin, the sending of credentials to the clubs, Mrs. Ruffin's election as a delegate from the State Federation and as alternate from the New England Press Association, and her preference to represent the Woman's Era Club. Mrs. West stated that on arriving in Milwaukee on Monday the delegation was met by the announcement that as the action of the Executive Committee in admitting the Woman's Era Club to the Federation had been found to be illegal, the application had been brought before the full board and had been laid upon the table. The delegation was called together Monday afternoon, and it was voted to send to the board a protest against its exclusion of the club. This was done at once, but no answer was received until after the delegation had returned to Massachusetts.

Mrs. West stated that it had been charged that the delegation allowed matters to drift. She refuted the charge by showing the promptness with which the protest was voted and sent to the board and that the delay was on the part of the latter. The board did not meet to take action on the protest until the following Thursday at 5 P. M.

Although no official reply was sent to the state chairman, it was well understood that the board had refused to take the application of the Woman's Era Club from the table. Until this time the delegation was powerless to act; it could only wait.

Mrs. West said that the delegation had been criticized for not bringing the matter into the open convention. This she showed was impossible prior to the action of the board, and after the board had acted only one day was left for Massachusetts to force the issue in the convention if she so desired. But Massachusetts had already been accused of bringing her colored delegate to Milwaukee to make an issue. If she refrained from appealing to the convention the charge would stand refuted. Another and stronger reason for the silence of the delegation was the open declaration by the Southern delegates that the Southern clubs would leave the Federation were the Woman's Era Club admitted. Feeling on the part of the South was at such a pitch that in Mrs. West's opinion action at this time by Massachusetts would have led to the disruption of the Federation. This was a responsibility the Massachusetts delegation was not ready to assume. Since Milwaukee the matter had not been allowed to drop. At the meeting of the executive board in New York last month Mrs. West had moved to have the application of the Woman's Era Club taken from the table. This was done. It was then announced that the Georgia Federation had sent to the board notice of an amendment to be presented at the sixth Biennial, inserting in the by-laws of the General Federation the word

"white," which, if voted, would have the effect of making of the Federation an organization of white women's clubs. Out of courtesy to the Georgia Federation it was voted to postpone action on the application of the Woman's Era Club until after the sixth Biennial, Mrs. West dissenting.

Miss Rowe added to Mrs. West's statement a tribute to Mrs. Ryffin's conduct and bearing at Milwaukee, her courage and devotion to principle in standing by her club and refusing a seat in the convention as a delegate from the State Federation, her calmness and forbearance. Mrs. May Alden Ward added her tribute to Miss Rowe's, stating that Mrs. Ryffin felt that if she entered the convention as a representative of the State Federation, the case of her own little club which was pending would be sure to be settled unfavorably. Miss Helen A. Whittier of Lowell made important suggestions as to the future line of action of the clubs. She advised careful reading of the reports of the last three Biennials, that an idea might be gained of the progress of the General Federation. She showed that Mrs. Henrotin had a definite policy in the conduct of its affairs. She had encouraged the formation of State Federations with a view to future organization, with the State Federation as the unit of membership. Miss Whittier felt that Massachusetts should make another effort for reorganization, a result which would eliminate the color question altogether. Should the Biennial come to Boston and the Georgia amendment be passed, Massachusetts might withdraw from the Federation probably without much loss to herself. Should the amendment be defeated and the South withdraw it would mean incalculable loss to the Southern clubs. The Federation had been a great factor in their development and Miss Whittier felt that it was because Mrs. Lowe had recognized this fact that she had taken extraordinary means to prevent their withdrawal on account of the Woman's Era Club incident. Miss Whittier advised the clubs to remain in the Federation in order to exert their full voting strength at the Biennial. If it should come to Boston there was no doubt of the cordial welcome Massachusetts would give to Mrs. Lowe, the courtesy which would be shown to her.

The effect of Mrs. West's candid statements and the other addresses was an illumination of the situation. The honor of the Massachusetts delegation at Milwaukee was vindicated, and the policy of patience and moderation on the part of the Massachusetts State Federation evidently understood and approved. On motion of Mrs. Laura Wentworth Fowler it was voted that the Conference of Presidents of Massachusetts Clubs indorse the action of the Massachusetts delegation at Milwaukee. On motion of Mrs. Ward it was voted that the Conference of Presidents recommends that the Executive Board of the Massachusetts State Federation be asked to send to the Executive Board of the General Federation at its next meeting notice that it will present at the next Biennial an amendment to the by-laws of the General Federation which shall embody the Massachusetts plan of reorganization. At the close of the meeting tea was served in an adjoining room. The table was decorated with beautiful yellow chrysanthemums and bands of yellow ribbon.

At the urns were seated three vice-presidents of the Federation, Mrs. May Alden Ward, Mrs. Henry D. Forbes, Mrs. Anna D. West, and the treasurer, Mrs. Adelaide N. Blodgett, and an hour of pleasant conversation closed the third Conference of Presidents.

The Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law, postpaid, 75 cents.

NEW JERSEY.

The sixth annual meeting of the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Newark on Friday, October 26, by invitation of the following clubs:

Current Topic Club, Half-Hour Readings Club, Newark Working Girl's Club, New Jersey Branch Sunshine Society, Philitscipoma, Philomathean, Ray Palmer, Saturday Club, Sesame, School Teachers' Guild, Travelers'.

Contrary to the custom which has prevailed of late years, the convention lasted only one day, but it was preceded by a reception at the house of Mrs. George B. Jenkinson, High Street, on Saturday evening. Mrs. Emily E. Williamson, President of the State Federation, being in mourning, her place was taken by Miss Elizabeth Vermilye, First Vice President, and Mrs. Stewart Hartshorn, Auditor, Mrs. John Holland, nee Ceilia Gaines, ex-President of the Federation, was also in the receiving line. Mrs. George B. Jenkinson stood first in the line.

The guests were greeted by Miss Eleanor Jenkinson, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, and by the members of that committee, who wore rosettes of white satin ribbon. They were Mrs. E. P. Dennison, Mrs. W. E. Taylor, Mrs. W. L. Starr, Mrs. W. R. Anthony, Mrs. H. H. Dawson, Miss Annie Tichenor, Mrs. F. S. Hampton, Mrs. Florence May Pickernell, Mrs. C. V. Luther and Miss Avery of the Teachers' Guild, who took the place of Miss A. Elizabeth Wiggan, who was unable to attend.

Owing to the cordial hospitality of the Newark ladies, the visiting delegates were most pleasantly entertained at private homes, each being served, as usual, in a room adjoining that in which the convention was held, at the High Street Presbyterian Church.

The proceedings were opened on Friday morning by a prayer from Dr. Lewis Lampman. Mrs. Henry B. Taylor's brief address of welcome was a genuine expression of cordial good will. The business of the session moved rapidly and smoothly under the skilful guidance of the President, Mrs. Williamson. The meeting lost in interest somewhat from the fact that the reports of the departments were not read. The reports were printed and distributed to the delegates present, and doubtless some people preferred this method. The election was a quiet one, as there was only a single candidate for the Presidency. The constitution of the New Jersey State Federation calls for two nominees for each office. Miss Mary McKean and Mrs. Florence Howe Hall had been nominated in turn, but both declined the nomination. The following ticket was elected:

President, Mrs. Stewart Hartshorn.

First Vice President, Miss Mary McKean.

Second Vice President, Mrs. Francis W. Kitchell.

Third Vice President, Mrs. Hobart Houghton.

Fourth Vice President, Mrs. Richard Gnade.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. David M. Miller.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Charlotte G. Tuttle.

Treasurer, Miss Celia Gardner.

Auditor, Mrs. Fannie J. Taylor.

Directors, Miss Vermilye, Miss Mary Jenkins, Mrs. E. S. Davey.

The afternoon meeting brought greetings from guests, one of whom was Miss E. Ellen Batcheller, state regent of the D. A. R. A discussion on "The Lack of Humor in the Club Life of Women," brought out a number of bright hits and telling points. Among the debaters were Mrs. Cynthia West-

over Alden, Mrs. Franklin H. Halliday and Mrs. John Holland. The president's farewell address followed.

Hon. Ernest H. Crosby gave an interesting address on "England in Egypt." Mr. Crosby is an earnest, clear and forcible speaker. Our Federation song, composed by Miss Marion Anthony Smith of Orange, closed the proceedings of the afternoon. In the evening Gustav Kobbe gave an author's reading with musical selections.

The departments of the Federation are: Forestry and Protection of Palisades, Miss Elizabeth B. Vermilye, chairman; Town Improvement, Mrs. Emma W. Newbury; Education, Mrs. Florence Howe Hall; Libraries, Mrs. Kate Brownlee Horton; Literature, Mrs. Francis W. Kitchel; Reciprocity Bureau, Mrs. Richard Guode. All have done good work, of which more will be said next month. Our State Federation also has a committee on legislation on which each chairman serves, where her department is concerned. Thus, when the legislature was considering a proposed revision of the school law of the state, Mrs. Emily E. Williamson and Mrs. Florence Howe Hall made addresses in the senate chamber favoring the bill, which was carried with some modifications.

Florence Howe Hall.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Upon invitation of the New Hampshire's Daughters Club of Boston, the fifth annual Field Meeting of the New Hampshire Federation was held in Boston, Mass., Oct. 25, 26, 27. The first evening was given up to a reception in Pierce hall, where from 8 to 11 the time was delightfully spent in social intercourse. Upon arriving, the guests were presented to the receiving party, which consisted of Mrs. Ida Farr Miller, president New Hampshire Daughters Club; Mrs. Susan C. Bancroft, president New Hampshire Federation; Mrs. Mary P. Woodman, vice-president New Hampshire Federation; Mrs. Anna D. West, representing the Massachusetts State Federation; Mrs. Eliza N. Blair, vice-president New Hampshire Daughters, and Mrs. Julia K. Dyer. In the refreshment room were three tables daintily arranged, where a delectable lunch was served. The centre table was decorated in green and silver, the colors of the New Hampshire Federation, while the other two were ornamented with buttercups, the club flower of the Daughters Club. During the reception music was furnished by a woman's orchestra, and two of Mrs. H. A. Beach's songs were rendered by Mrs. Margaret Muckland. Each guest received as a souvenir a booklet, containing photographs of Miss Kate Sanborn and Mrs. Micah Dyer, illustrations of historic places in Boston and Plymouth and the program of entertainment.

The next day a special train conveyed the club members to Plymouth. On arrival, carriages were in readiness and a delightful drive was enjoyed to Plymouth Rock, Burial Hill, the National Monument and other historic points of interest. In the afternoon several hours were spent in Pilgrim Hall and wandering over the old burial ground. The return trip to Boston was made at five o'clock, and all felt that the day would long be remembered by all who were privileged to be present. On Saturday morning a meeting was held at 9 o'clock in Pierce Hall. Mrs. Bancroft presided. Topics of importance in club work were presented and discussed. Mrs. Griffin of Keene spoke on "Expansion or Exclusion," or was a large club in a place more desirable than several small ones. She favored expansion as giving the greatest good to the greatest number of people.

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Mrs. Alice Nims of Concord, on "What to do with the waiting list," said it is the safeguard of the club, as what is easily gained is not apt to be appreciated.

Balloting was the best way to choose members. Mrs. Mary Eastman of Somersworth spoke on "Discussion in Clubs," being greatly in favor of it; the great difficulty was to make a beginning. Mrs. Priest of Manchester, on "What the Federation has accomplished," said it had given many people an opportunity to hear, for a small amount of money, notable speakers on many subjects, and in this way had helped to broaden the minds of the community. Mrs. Mary Wood had "Indifferent Members" as her topic, and stated her club had none. If the club program was made up carefully with great variety each member would be interested in something and indifference would cease. Mrs. Margaret Stannard, in speaking of the "club's duty to the child," said there should be a mothers' department in every club, or programs arranged to help mothers. The clubs should try to improve the schools and school buildings, also strengthen the relation between home and school. Miss Whitcomb of the committee of resolutions presented one of thanks to the New Hampshire Daughters for their courtesy and hospitality which had made the annual Field Meeting so enjoyable. This was unanimously passed by a rising vote, to which Mrs. Miller, president of the New Hampshire Daughters, responded.

Special cars were now taken for the navy yard, where Admiral Sampson had kindly given permission to the club members to inspect his famous battleship Olympia; the Constitution, the rope walk and other attractions.

This brought to a close the fifth annual Field Meeting,

a memorable one in the history of the New Hampshire Federation of Women's Clubs.

Bessie M. Christophe.

The Milford Woman's Club tendered a reception to the New Hampshire Federation officers on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 12th. Short addresses were made by Mrs. Bancroft and Mrs. Streeter, president and honorary president of the Federation, and music was furnished by the Milford Club octette and a solo by Mrs. Roach. Previous to the afternoon meeting, Mrs. Kaley, president of the Milford Club, gave a luncheon to its former presidents and to the visiting officers.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

The Black Hills Federation held its annual meeting at Deadwood, the guest of the Woman's Club, on October 12.

The board of directors held a short session at 1.30 and the regular business meeting was called to order at 2 p. m., Mrs. Bullock, vice-president, in the chair. The constitution was changed so that hereafter officers are elected biennially and are not eligible for re-election.

The following officers were then elected: President, Mrs. W. S. Coad, Rapid City Current Events Club; vice-president, Mrs. W. A. Stuart, Sturgis, Woman's Literary Society; recording secretary, Mrs. McDonald, Lead Woman's Club; corresponding secretary, Miss Gage, Rapid City, Tourists' Club; treasurer, Mrs. Bertha Cable, Deadwood Woman's Club.

The literary meeting was called at 8 p. m., with the following program: Organ voluntary, Mr. Richardson; paper, "Art and the Drama," Mrs. H. H. Dickinson of Lead Woman's Club; vocal solo, Mr. Hedges; paper, "Art in the Banner," Mrs. Daily of Hot Springs Shakespeare Club; paper, "The Influence of Art on Morals," prepared by Mrs. Coad and read by Mrs. Clift of Rapid City; violin obligato, Miss Helen Clough; report of the G. F. W. C. Biennial, by Mrs. W. S. Coad; song by Woman's Club Quartette; report of committee on resolutions adopted; session adjourned to meet Oct. 1901, at Rapid City.

At the close of the meeting all adjourned to the church parlors where a most delightful reception was tendered all visitors by the Deadwood Woman's Club.

The new board held a conference Saturday morning, when the president appointed her committees.

It was a delightful session throughout, assisted by ideal Indian summer weather, and I am sure that all in attendance felt amply repaid by the "food for thought" they carried home with them.

Clara D. Coe.

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TENNESSEE.

During the last week in October the Woman's Press Club of Tennessee held its annual meeting in Knoxville. That it is a body of brilliant, brainy women goes without saying, for no clan of American women have attained greater success in their line of work than have the Press women.

The most important business transacted at the meeting was the withdrawal from the State Federation of Women's Clubs and an alliance with the National Press League.

It was decided that as the Press Club was a state organization and the peer of the T. F. W. C., it was not expedient to remain a member of that organization.

While the State Federation regrets to lose such a clever body of women, it feels they have done wisely in identifying themselves with an association devoted exclusively to press work; nor could this union have been accomplished while it remained a member of a Federation composed of literary clubs.

The women's clubs of Morristown have established a free library in their town, and the Ladies Reading Circle engaged Mrs. Chas. A. Perkins of Knoxville, president of State Federation, to deliver her illustrated lecture on the Passion Play for the benefit of this library. The lecture was well attended, thoroughly appreciated and was a success in every particular.

Mrs. Perkins is eminently fitted to make this lecture instructive and entertaining, having visited Oberammergau in 1890.

Were there not another club in Tennessee the Woman's Club of Cleveland could produce sufficient evidence to prove that the women of our state excel in enterprise and ability.

This club, organized in 1894 with eight members, is now a large flourishing club, and is maintaining a free public library, besides studying a comprehensive course of history and literature.

That women are possessed of ambition and determination and an ability to meet and conquer practical problems of finance—our professional wits are contraire—is proven by the Nineteenth Century Club of Memphis, which, during the last week of October, threw open the doors of its new club house, the only house in the south owned and controlled by a woman's club.

The story of this house reads like a romance, and in some subtle way suggests a passing of the dreamy old southland into the progressive, practical today.

It was originally a residence, built after the plans of the hospitable south, and contained twenty-four rooms, for Mr. Thos. A. Nelson, the builder and owner, intended that his daughters should remain with him after their marriage.

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But soon after its completion and occupation the dark cloud of war hovered over the land, and broke in a deluge of blood. Mr. Nelson, with others, fled; his house was deserted, and all that saved it from destruction was a Masonic emblem emblazoned on the roof. Its commodious rooms and luxurious furnishings appealed to the good taste of the army officers, and they appropriated it for headquarters. After the war Mr. Nelson's affairs being more or less involved, he sold it to the Dominican Sisterhood, and they used it for a school for girls until last spring, when it was purchased by the Nineteenth Century Club. And in remodeling it the ladies have endeavored to retain the anti-bellum air of aristocratic luxury and original design.

The spacious double parlors have been converted into an auditorium, while the reception room is restored to its original purposes, and contains, chief among its objects of art, an immense statue of Diana, the Huntress. There are reading, writing, committee and office rooms, besides a kitchen and sewing pantries; and it is a beautiful and ideal home for a woman's club.

C. R. Greer.

UTAH.

The seventh convention of the Utah Federation of Women's Clubs was held in Salt Lake City the last week in October. From the addresses of the president, Mrs. Mary G. Coulter, and secretary, Mrs. Helen D. Moore, the club movement in Utah during the year had had a pronounced progressiveness pervading the atmosphere; as a result the clubs have assumed more of the altruistic spirit than ever before. The thirty-three federated clubs, which represent about eight hundred women, have willingly taken up the lines of work suggested by the state organization. Free traveling libraries now extend from north to far south, from the mining camps high in the eastern mountains across to the further side of the western range, and yet there is call for more. By the way, Utah hopes to fall in line with those states having already secured state legislation for the benefit of the free traveling libraries. The cases average seventy-five books of history, fiction, biography and juveniles. The new cases are to contain pictures also. The Prang exhibit in Salt Lake City has resulted in the public schools owning many beautiful copies. Ogden and Provo come next on the list with their exhibits. The generous gift of \$100,000 by Mr. Packard for a public library for Salt Lake City was unanimously endorsed by a resolution to that effect. The Industrial Committee and the Council of Women's Clubs have done much to arouse the people to a sense of see-

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ing things as they are and not as they may seem to be. Better conditions already exist.

Saturday forenoon was devoted to education, Mrs. Emma McVicker, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, presiding. Free kindergartens and a cooking school had been maintained by several clubs, while parent's classes, lectures and educational meetings had had a share in the awakening.

The reception at the home of Mrs. Priscilla Jennings on Thursday afternoon and the well appointed luncheon on Friday given by Mrs. Arthur Brown were two happy functions which helped to make the seventh convention a success.

During the first year's work as president, Mrs. Coulter has won the confidence of the club women, whose desire is for more service.

Next October the Provo ladies will entertain the Federation, when the regular general election of officers will occur.

Ivy Loar Corfman.

Provo, Utah.

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WISCONSIN.

Wisconsin's interest in the Racine Convention, which was reported in last number of The Club Woman, has not yet died away, for it was considered one of the most successful ever held by the Federation. It was an experiment in a three days' session of the desirability of which club women are divided. It was easier to handle than a shorter session because there was not so much of that breathless hurry experienced by the presiding officer when the time is less, but there is a limit to the capability of the mind of even a club woman, and it is a question if the delegates were able to assimilate even the half of the fine things offered in the way of addresses, reports, papers, etc. The program was replete with good things, and among the many best was the paper read by Miss Helen M. Winslow, editor of The Club Woman, who journeyed all the way from Boston to be present at this meeting, an attention much appreciated by Wisconsin women. Her paper on "What the Club Should Mean" was received with enthusiasm. Miss Winslow also gave some delightful readings of original dialect stories at the evening reception. The method of electing officers by nomination from the floor was tried for the first time and proved a lively failure except that it gave to the Federation a splendid executive board.

It consumed valuable time in a useless way, as nominations for each office must, according to the amendment to the constitution, be followed by an informal ballot. As a drill in parliamentary practice the procedure may have had value, but that is not supposed to be for what conventions are held. Before another election Wisconsin will have found a better way.

The new board held its first meeting at the Plankinton House, Milwaukee, on Thursday, December sixth. Mrs. Youmans presided, and by her dignified bearing and able manner in conducting business won the immediate respect and confidence of the board. Twelve of the sixteen members were present and the conference lasted from half past nine in the morning, when the meeting was called to order, until five in the afternoon, with only a brief recess for luncheon. Arrangements have been made whereby the proceedings of the La Crosse, Eau Claire and Racine conventions will soon be printed and placed in the possession of the clubs. The Library, Educational, Art, Interchange and Town Improvement Committees were appointed, a change being made in their numbers, which in the future will consist of four members each. The Reciprocity Bureau was changed from Ashland to Green Bay and placed under the direction of Mrs. F. E. Litcham, 919 S. Quincy street. The committees on the Labor Question and the Consumers' League were discontinued because of the new and strong State Consumers' League, which, as an offshoot of the Federation, will entirely cover the ground of both these committees. At the suggestion of the president a new committee was appointed to be known as that of Literary Reference, which will aim to give assistance to clubs along literary lines, thus relieving the Reciprocity Bureau and Library Committee of a part of the work which has fallen to them.

The annual Federation directory will not be published until after the spring elections; to cover the interim a condensed directory will be issued which will give only the names of state and club officers and members of committees. The invitation of Madison Woman's Club to hold the convention of 1901 in that city was accepted and the time fixed for

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I could not get along without The Club Woman. It is teeming with good suggestions for club work and also good advice. I find myself looking forward to each number with the greatest pleasure. It has been very helpful to me.—Very cordially, Mrs. Fred Crabtree, McKeesport, Pa.

Your most helpful paper steadily increases in value, and no woman desiring accurate knowledge of Club and Federation matters can afford not to read it. With thanks for personal help through its columns,—Amy P. S. Stacy, President Aloha Club, Tacoma, Wash.

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